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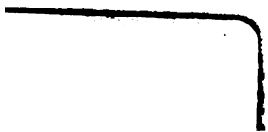
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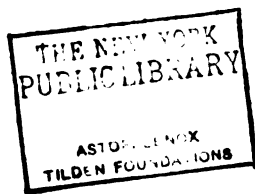
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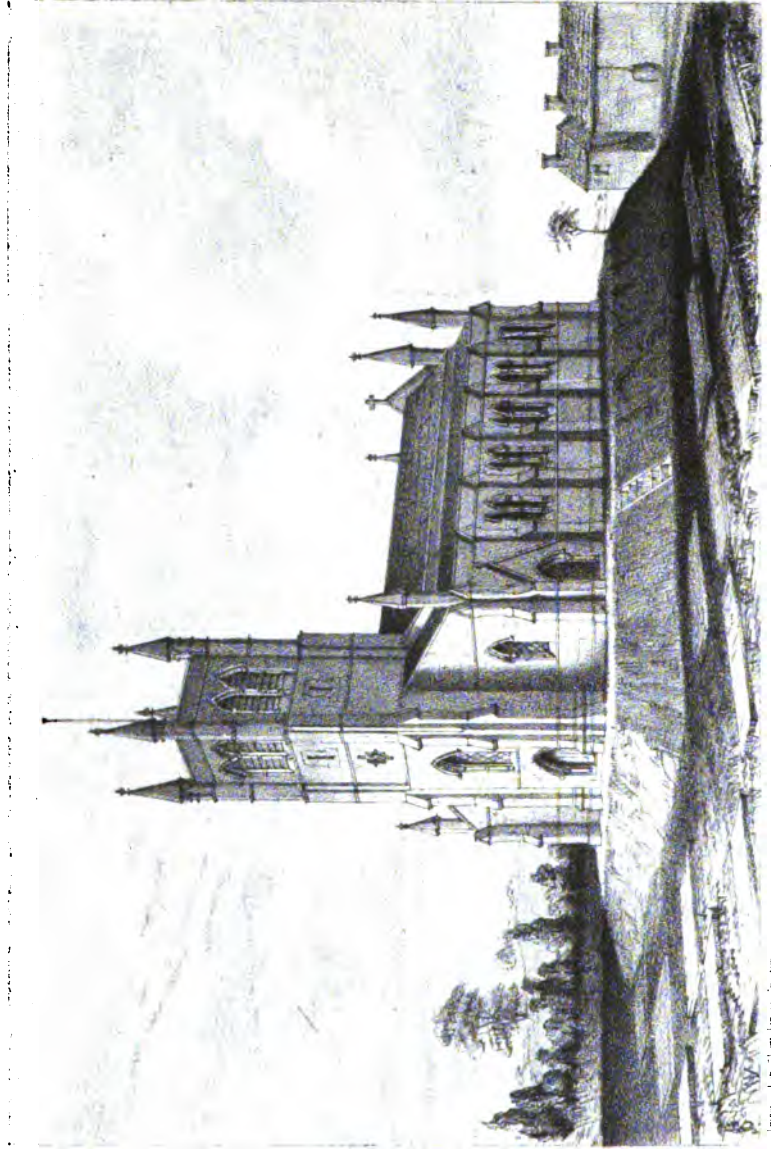


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Blackley Chapel,

ERECTED 1844.

*George Vassall
Prestwich
Chapel,*

A HISTORY

OF THE

Ancient Chapel of Blackley,

IN MANCHESTER PARISH;

INCLUDING

SKETCHES OF THE TOWNSHIPS OF BLACKLEY, HARPURHEY, MOSTON, AND
CRUMPSALL, FOR THE CONVENIENCE OF THE WHICH SEVERAL
HAMLETS THE CHAPEL WAS ORIGINALLY ERECTED;

TOGETHER WITH

NOTICES OF THE MORE ANCIENT LOCAL FAMILIES AND PARTICULARS
RELATING TO THE DESCENT OF THEIR ESTATES.

BY THE REV. JOHN BOOKER, B.A.,

OF MAGDALENE COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE,
CURATE OF PRESTWICH.

MANCHESTER:
GEORGE SIMMS, ST. ANN'S SQUARE.

1854.

Wm



Manchester:
Printed by Charles Simms and Co.

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V. A. S. S.

TO
THE RIGHT HONOURABLE
FRANCIS EGERTON, EARL OF ELLESMERE,
VISCOUNT BRACKLEY, K.G., ETC. ETC.,
THIS HISTORY OF
THE ANCIENT CHAPEL OF BLACKLEY,
IN MANCHESTER PARISH,
IS, WITH HIS LORDSHIP'S PERMISSION,
RESPECTFULLY INSCRIBED.

PREFACE.

THE several ancient Chapels of Ease which lie scattered over the extensive parish of Manchester have as yet been left without any to record their history.

Their annals must be regarded as supplemental to those of the Parent Church; and, consequently, the history of Manchester, ecclesiastical as well as civil, will never have been fully written until the Chapels connected in filial dependence with the Mother Church, and their surrounding districts, have been made the subject of antiquarian investigation.

Blackley Chapel, with its neighbourhood, has been first selected, not as having claims superior to other and perhaps more ancient foundations, but as forming the scene of the Author's earlier ministrations, and therefore invested with an interest to him which the others do not in an equal degree possess.

It has been said by White, in his admirable *Natural History and Antiquities of Selborne*, that, "if stationary

men would pay some attention to the districts in which they reside, and would publish their thoughts respecting the objects that surround them, from such materials might be drawn the most complete county histories, which are still wanting in several parts of the kingdom." And it must be admitted as true, that constant residence in a neighbourhood affords opportunities for observation and enquiry which no mere occasional visits, however often repeated, can secure.

This advantage, added to a natural taste for such pursuits, and the favourable reception recently given to a kindred volume in which the field of his present duties was made to supply the theme, has stimulated the Author to a renewal of his labours. On the result of this his later experiment he may not venture to speculate, save that in deprecation of all harsh criticism he would suggest that similar enquiries to the present, even when least successfully conducted, are attended with no inconsiderable expenditure of time and trouble, the labour being greatly increased by the necessity therein involved for diligent research in ensuring that measure of accuracy which alone can impart value to works of this description.

From causes which need not here be adverted to, all opportunity has been denied for tracing the descent of lands in Moston township, a neighbourhood most fruitful in records of the past. This is greatly to be regretted, since much that is interesting might have been expected from such a source.

To those friends who by their ready offers of assistance

have placed him under deep obligation, the Author begs to return his grateful acknowledgments: to the Right Reverend the LORD BISHOP OF MANCHESTER; the Venerable ARCHDEACON RUSHTON, D.D.; the Rev. CANON RAINES, M.A., F.S.A., Incumbent of Milnrow; the Rev. R. BROOK ASPLAND of Dukinfield; the Rev. WM. ROBERT KEELING, B.A., Incumbent of Blackley; and Mr. JOHN HARLAND of Manchester. His thanks are also due to HENRY RAIKES, Esq., Registrar of the diocese of Chester, for his kind permission to examine and abstract from Wills and other Documents in the department over which he presides.

Nor is he under obligations of less weight to Mr. JAMES CROSTON of Manchester, who, at a great sacrifice of time and personal convenience, has undertaken to superintend the pictorial embellishment of this volume, contributing not a little to its chances of success by the spirited efforts of his pencil.

PRESTWICH,
MAY, 1854.

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A HISTORY OF THE ANCIENT CHAPEL OF BLACKLEY, ETC.



THE county of Lancaster is remarkable as in many other respects so also for the magnitude of its parishes, surpassing, as they do, in territorial extent those of every other county. This peculiarity, sufficiently marked in itself, is rendered in modern days more so by the teeming population with which many of these abound. Thus the parish of Whalley in its extreme limits extends in length eighteen miles and in breadth fifteen, embracing an area of sixty-six thousand acres, and containing in 1851 a population of 134,000 souls. Blackburn parish is fourteen miles long and ten broad, extending over forty-eight thousand acres, and containing a population of 85,000 souls. Rochdale parish stretches over forty-one thousand acres, and includes a population of 98,000 souls.

Fuller, who wrote about the year 1650, institutes a comparison in this respect between the counties of Lancaster and Rutland, the latter of which, though in size scarcely a fifth part of the former, contains a fourth part more parishes therein; the numbers being respectively forty-eight and thirty-six.⁽¹⁾ Their magnitude seems indeed to have passed into a proverb, the same writer remarking that "some clergymen who have consulted God's honour with their own credit and profit could not better desire for them-

⁽¹⁾ *History of the Worthies of England*, p. 105; edit. 1662.

selves than to have a Lincolnshire Church as best built, a Lancashire Parish as largest bounded, and a London Audience as consisting of most intelligent people.”⁽¹⁾ The parish of Manchester (exclusive of Ashton-under-Lyne, which until 1427 was united with it) extends over an area of thirty-five thousand acres, and contains a population of 450,000 souls.

At the time of the Domesday Survey (1080-86) there existed for the whole of this extensive parish but two churches:⁽²⁾ one dedicated to St. Mary, standing according to tradition at the termination of St. Mary's Gate, at the eastern end of the avenue, near to the site of the present Manchester Exchange; and the other, dedicated to St. Michael, situated at Aldport (near Knott Mill): but as both churches were within the limits of the town the extremities of the parish would be but little benefited, the accommodation afforded being inadequate to the wants of the aggregate population of the parish, and the distance too great from the more remote suburbs of the town to admit of a general resort of the parishioners thither.

The earliest extended provision for the spiritual requirements of the parishioners is to be found in the private chapels or oratories founded by the lords of the soil. These were commonly attached to the lord's mansion, and designed for his own convenience and that of his dependants.

(¹) The truth of this is shown in the following table of the principal parishes in the diocese of Manchester, which gives the area of the several parishes and the number of souls according to the population returns of 1851:

Parish.	Ac.	Pop.	Parish.	Ac.	Pop.
Lancaster.....	68,084	- 25,929	Prestwich....	22,052	- 94,469
Whalley	66,398	- 134,196	Eccles.....	22,004	- 41,497
Blackburn.....	48,281	- 84,919	Deane.....	20,101	- 29,809
Rochdale.....	41,836	- 98,022	Ashton.....	17,614	- 56,959
Kirkham	38,871	- 10,928	Leyland.....	17,000	- 13,710
Manchester ...	35,151	- 452,158	Leigh.....	13,792	- 25,996
Bolton	33,405	- 87,280	Preston.....	12,588	- 72,136
Bury	24,914	- 70,147			

(²) *Ecclesia Sanctæ Mariæ et ecclesia Sancti Michaelis tenebant in Mamcestre unam carucatam terræ, quietam ab omni consuetudine præter geldum. — Domesday Book.*

Of these chapels several examples still remain, whilst of many others that once existed all traces have been lost. In the year 1400 we find a license granted to Sir John Byron to have "an oratory for one year in his manors of Clayton and Butterworth;" and in 1411 the same license was renewed and extended to all his manors in Lancashire. The chapel at Clayton Hall would be resorted to by the inhabitants of Newton, Droylesden, Failsworth, &c. Chapels were also anciently attached to Denton Hall the residence of the Holland family, Reddish Hall the seat of the family of Reddish, Birch Hall, Rusholme, and Trafford Hall the seat of the de Traffords.

In the course of years, as the population in the several hamlets increased, these private chapels being found insufficient were superseded by edifices of greater capacity and of a more public character, to the erection of which no doubt the large landed proprietors were the chief contributors, but aided probably in some minor degree by the more prosperous of their tenantry. At this distant period it is not easy to determine when these several chapels were erected, nor yet what was their precise character; whether they were merely chapels of ease served by the clergy of the mother-church, or parochial chapels with assigned districts differing little in point of privilege from parish churches, and being in fact churches of parishes within a parish. It is probable however that most of them date from after the time of the Reformation; and the rapid development of mercantile enterprise which marked the latter part of the reign of Henry VIII. and the succeeding reigns of Edward VI., Mary, and Elizabeth, points to that period as the date of the foundation of most of them.

Their character too as chapels of ease, in contradistinction to parochial chapels, may be inferred from the various charters and documents which prescribe the duties of the clergy of the mother-church. An old manuscript copy of Queen Elizabeth's Charter to the College of Manchester, after stating the loss sustained by the College in consequence of the non-residence of the Warden, proceeds to say that "hereafter the Warden for the time being,

nor any Fellow, shall receive any of the rents, revenues, fruits, or profits of the said College, but only for those days wherein he shall be present in the College and in the Church, *or shall go forth to preach or visit the sick in some village within the parish of Manchester aforesaid;*" implying the absence of resident curates at the chapels within the parish. And in confirmation of this view, in the year 1634, Richard Johnson, one of the Fellows of Manchester, states that "hee hath reade prayers at Gorton Chappell and preached and catechised there, *which hee is required to doe by the express letter of the statute.*" Perhaps the only two possessing a claim to the higher privilege of parochial chapels are those of Newton and Didsbury, but in these cases it is by no means certain that they differed from the rest.

In process of time the benevolence of individuals led to the partial endowment of these several chapels, and with this scanty provision a certain independence sprung up. Each chapel had now its own exclusive minister, unlike the early itinerating clergy of the mother-church who, located in Manchester, charged themselves in their occasional visits to the suburban districts with a supervision of the whole parish, and differing also from the domestic chaplain of the lord of the manor, who, officiating in the private chapel of the manor-house, could only be regarded by the surrounding population as appertaining rather to their lord than to themselves. The Warden and Fellows were thus released from the necessity of further personal service, except during vacancies, at that early period by no means infrequent, when the scant income provided for the curate often starved him into a resignation of the charge, deterring others from an acceptance of the vacant office. In such cases the Warden and Fellows were again answerable for the duty.

As far as can now be inferred these chapels, from the date of their early foundation, possessed the right of baptism, marriage, and burial throughout their respective neighbourhoods—in fact, all the privileges which they now enjoy—the inhabitants claiming then, as at the present time, the option of being admitted to the

several offices of the church either in their own *adjacent chapel* or in their *parish church* of Manchester. As relates to the interment of those residents in the remote parts of the parish, for whose benefit these chapels had been founded, provision appears to have been made for the reception of the dead in the parish churchyard long after burial grounds had been assigned to the several chapels. The south side of the parish churchyard was thus appropriated and was divided into separate allotments or hills, as they were termed, each peculiar to the district or township whose name it bore; as Droylesden Hill, Moston Hill, Stretford Hill, &c. From the manuscript note book of a former sexton the following extract is quoted by Dr. Hibbert Ware: "1680, Sept. 20. Margaret daughter of Thomas Hill of Moson [Moston] lieth on Moson Hill, south from Robert Sutton stoen sum 3 yerds."

At the close of the sixteenth century the number of such chapels in the parish of Manchester was seven; they were planted in the respective townships of Blackley, Denton, Chorlton, Didsbury, Newton, Gorton, and Stretford.

The township of Blackley, wherein the chapel of which it is now proposed to treat was located, is distant about four miles north north-east from Manchester. It is situated on the river Irk, a stream so called from the liveliness of its current, which has entitled it to the figurative appellation of Iwrck, Irke, or Roe-buck.

Its etymology is yet a disputed point, owing to the various significations of the Anglo-Saxon word, *blac*, *blæc*, *bleac*, which means not only *black*, *dark*, *opaque*, and even *gloomy*, but also *pale*, *faded*, *pallid*, from "blæcan," to bleach or make white. And as if these opposite meanings were not sufficiently perplexing two other forms present themselves, one of which means *bleak*, *cold*, *bare*, and the other *yellow*, a darkish yellow; the latter syllable in the name *ley*, *leg*, *leag*, or *leah*, signifying a *field* or place of *pasture*.

Whitaker prefers the first derivation, as confirmatory of his theory, that in the British and Roman periods of our local history the parish of Manchester was overspread with woods, there being

at that time but little assart or cleared space, save where the town stood surrounded by the dwellings of its smaller chiefs or by the Roman tumultuary forts and the cultivated enclosures annexed to these abodes of men, or where the mosses stretched their sterile arms across the land. Of these, the chief about Manchester were the Chat, the Trafford, the Barton, the Houghs, and the Failsworth mosses. Perhaps we should also except from the ancient forest the moors of Walkden, Kearsley, &c. While the forest of Horwich covered all the north-west part of the Salford Hundred, extending even into Leyland, and measuring as late as the fourteenth century some sixteen miles in circumference, the forest of Derbyshire extended over a very large portion of the West Derby Hundred. But the smaller forest, in the centre of which stood British and Roman-British Manchester, was anciently called Arden, or Arden — that is, The great wood.⁽¹⁾

Let us take Whitaker's view of the state of this forest of Arden in the Roman-British period of Manchester's local history: "This forest had now gradually receded on every side of Manchester, and given up its nearer ground to the dominion of the spade and the plough. But it must still have curved about the town in a large amphitheatre of woods and maintained its hereditary possessions over the greatest part of the parish, and it covered all the hills of Broughton and Blackley. The former township I have previously intimated and shall hereafter show to have been all one forest to the time of the Conquest; and the name of the latter is derived from its great thickets at the period of the Saxon establishment among us. The Saxon *blac*, *black*, or *blake* frequently imports the deep gloom of trees; hence we have so many places distinguished by this epithet in England where no circumstances of soil and no peculiarities of water gave occasion to it, as the villages of Blackburn and Blackrode in Lancashire, Blakeley-hurst near Wigan, and our own Blackley near Manchester; and the woods of the last were even seven miles in circuit as late as the fourteenth century. On the eastern side of the parish the same Arden remained

(1) Whitaker's *History of Manchester*, vol. i. p. 109.

many ages afterwards in the groves of Collyhurst and Nuthurst and the thicket of Bradford, the last being even in the reign of Edward II. no less than a mile in circumference; and on the south it peculiarly retained the name of Arden for ages, as I have previously shown, and was latterly broken into the thickets that gave denomination to Openshaw, Blackbrook, and Blackstakes, into Ashton-hurst and Heaton-wood and the large grove that winded along the bank of the Mersey, and imparted the name of Hardey or Hardy to a range of meadow upon it."⁽¹⁾

The next notice we find of Blackley is in Sir Oswald Mosley's "Concise History of the Manor or Seignory of Manchester."⁽²⁾ It is there stated that by a return, 20th Edward I. (1291-2), to a writ of Inquisition taken upon the death of Robert Grelle (seventh baron of Manchester) it was found that he died seised of the manor of Manchester, &c., of a small park called Alde Parke [at Aldporton near Knott Mill] and Lithake, and of another park called Blackley, &c.*

Here, then, we find the ancient wood so far cleared as to leave Blackley a park so early as 1283-4. At the same period the bondage land in Crumpsall paid forty shillings yearly to the lord, and the assarted or cleared lands there ten shillings and two pence; so that some progress must have been made in disafforesting the ancient woods of Blackley.

In Thomas Grelle's Charter to his burgesses of Manchester in 1301 the eighteenth clause runs thus: "Also the burgesses may nourish their swine, of their own breeding, in the woods of the lord, except in the forests and parks of the said lord, until the time of pannage [the feeding-time of pigs upon mast in the woods], and if they will at the aforesaid time go their way, it shall be lawful for them without license of the lord; and if they will tarry during the term of the pannage they shall satisfy the lord for that pannage:" thus showing that woods covered the neighbourhood of Manchester, and that though the burgesses might feed their pigs in

(¹) Whitaker's *History of Manchester*, vol. ii. pp. 110, 111; edit. 1773.

(²) Corry's *History of Lancashire*, vol. ii. p. 449.

* In July 1269 Thomas Grelley obtained a charter of free warren within his manor of Manchester, not four years earlier, on Oct. 15, 1265 the King sent his mandate to the Justices of Chester to deliver 8 bucks and 15 does alive, out of the Park of Manchesterfield, to Thomas Grelley, whereunto he took his park of Manchester, by the King's gift, (Farrer's *Barony of Grelley*, *Loc. cit.* Soc., 1901, p. 11).

the woods generally, yet the lord's forests, chases, parks, and warren were for obvious reasons interdicted to the swine of the burgesses.

We next come to the extent or survey of the manor of Manchester as taken in the 15th Edward II. (1322), and preserved by Kuerden.⁽¹⁾ This survey begins by stating that in consequence of the extent and diversity of the woods of the manor they were not measured, but estimated: that in Blackley there is a pasture in wood and champaign which is not computed by the acre, but is capable of grazing two hundred beasts or more, one hundred of which are now grazing, and worth annually £6, for each head six pence; and besides this, it is capable of grazing two hundred fallow-deer or such wild beasts, which are not valued here except for a deer-range and leap. The heath-land was in extent thirteen acres, and it was valued at eight shillings and eight pence. In this official survey we have the following explicit notice of Blackley: "The park of Blakelegh is worth in pannage, aëry of eagles, herons and hawks, honey-bees, mineral earths, ashes, and other issues, fifty-three shillings and four pence. The vesture of oaks, with the whole coverture, is worth 200 marks [£133 .. 6 .. 8] in the gross.

Note the sing.

Note the plur. It contains seven miles in circumference, together with two deer-leaps, of the king's grant."
but was one of those deer-leaps at all sport.

It contains seven miles in circumference, together with two deer-leaps, of the king's grant."

This is a clear description of Blackley park, which we learn, from a specification of the ancient limits and boundaries of the manor, was surrounded and fenced in by a wooden paling; for the boundaries are described as "following the pales of Blakeley park into Braydshaw." (2) It is curious to note the changed habits and pursuits of the inhabitants as indicated by the above enumeration of the sources whence their ancient prosperity was derived.

Braydshaw

See Bradshaw Farm

on Broad Lane

N. of Nuthurst Hall

(1) Kuerden's MS. fol. 274, Chetham Library; quoted by Baines, vol. ii. p. 182.

(2) Harl. MSS. Cod. 2085; "... et abinde seq' policiū parce de Blakel usq' ad &c."

It is worthy of remark that about twenty years ago, in digging a deep trench on the confines of Blackley and Moston, the better to define the limits of the respective townships, the remains of this park-fence were discovered buried deep in the moss-land, which is there of considerable extent. The wood bore a close resemblance in colour and grain to the bog-oak of Ireland.

† On Feb. 26, 1796 timber in Moston was sold by auction at Swan Ship Inn, Salford, comprising 261 oaks and 290 Ash-trees, to be shown by Jonathan Taylor, John Gossop, and William (tenant), and on March 18, six of the lots were again offered (See, Oldham Annual III, 1793-4). On Feb. 28, 1798, 700 oaks growing in Moston were offered by auction at the same inn, with a of "cyphers" in each lot. Taken shown by Thos. Schofield, John Whitehead or John Gossop of Moston - obtainable from J. Coleby of Pennington Hall, Leigh (ibid. p. 327)

The products of Blackley were various.

In that sporting age it is natural that amongst the first mentioned should be the aëry of eagles, of herons, and of hawks. The eagles would probably be the osprey or sea-eagle, the only kind noticed by Leigh in his "Natural History of Lancashire and Cheshire" as seen in this country, and which he calls the asper. Aëry is a term not now used as to herons, whose abode is called a heronry; indeed originally the word aëry seems to have signified only the nests of the goshawk, and is supposed to have been derived from the French word *aerie*, a hawk's nest. The liberty of keeping these aeries of hawks was a privilege granted only to great persons, and the preserving the aeries in the king's forests was one sort of tenure of lands by service: thus in a record of 20th Edward I. (1291 - 2) we find that Simon de Raghton and another held lands in Raghton, &c., "per serjantiam custodiendi aërias austurcorum domini regis" (by serjeanty of keeping the aeries of hawks of the lord the king).

Next come honey and bees. These would be wild, though Whitaker is of opinion that the Britons anciently had hives, "bees having been brought in colonies with their queens from the woods, and methegln made of their honey." He describes an ancient British hive of basket-work found in Chat Moss about 1753, which contained complete combs and perfect bees within, but which soon mouldered into dust on exposure to the atmosphere. Another similar hive was found in the early part of last century in the neighbourhood of Linyshaw moss.

The next product enumerated, "mineral earths," cannot so easily be defined. Of coal beneath the surface there is no evidence in so far as the sinking of shafts is concerned, there being no record of any such enterprise having been undertaken by the inhabitants at any period of its history.

The "ashes" referred to are the product of timber combustion; and when it was an object to reduce the wood land to a state of assart or cleared ground, for conversion into arable or pasture

land, there can be no doubt that this primitive manufacture was resorted to freely.

The "vesture of oaks" is not intended to signify the clothing, band, or belt of trees, but the profit arising therefrom—"vestura" being an old law term denoting profit from land, &c. These profits were very large indeed, and indicate the great extent of "coverture."

The seven miles' circumference of Blackley park must have included portions of other townships, for Blackley has an area of only eighteen hundred and forty acres. In all probability it included, at the time now treated of, Alkrington wood, parts of Crumpsall, Harpurhey, and Moston, and the whole of Heaton park. The "two deer-leaps" were probably cloughs or ravines, of which the most remarkable is the "Boggart-hole clough," a long cleft or dell between two rocks, the sides of which rise abruptly and leave a narrow pass widening a little here and there, through which flows a small brook. This is the last stronghold of Blackley's ancient characteristic features where rural tranquillity still reigns free from the bustle and turmoil of mercantile industry around it.

The "king's grant" is doubtless that of "free warren," made by Henry III. to Thomas Grelle in 1249, "in all his demesne lands of Mamecestre in the county of Lancaster, and of Wyllanesham (now Willisham) in the county of Suffolk." In an enumeration, in the same extent of 1322, of the mills, fisheries, &c., of the manor of Manchester, we have it stated that "there are the waters of the Irke upon Manchester and Blakel . . . the banks of which on both sides are the lord's soil, on which it is unlawful for any one to fish without the lord's license, as it is his warren: the value thereof is twelve pence."⁽¹⁾

A reference to the map of the parish will show that the Irk forms the north-west and south-west boundary of the township of Blackley from Alkrington wood westward, dividing Blackley from the parishes of Middleton and Prestwich, and then from the town-

⁽¹⁾ Kuerden's *MS.*; quoted by Baines, *History of Lancashire*, vol. ii.

ship of Crumpsall, till it reaches the point or corner where the three townships of Blackley, Crumpsall, and Harpurhey meet and touch. This gives a large extent of fishery within Blackley. In a sort of appendix to this extent of the manor we find the following entries: "Blakelache in parco 13 ac' p' cij, 00 08 00; Blakelegh 1 acr' p'c' 00 00 02." Under the head "Boscus" (wood) is Blakelache. This probably signifies that in Blackley park was thirteen acres of park land worth eight shillings yearly, and one acre of park land paying two pence. How much wood land there was in Blackley is not specified.⁽¹⁾

By Indenture bearing date 29th Edward III. (1355) Reginald la Warre, lord of Manchester, gives to his kinsman Thurstan de Holland his little pasture of Blackley with the arable lands of Bothomley and the meadow land situate in the same park, there to feed his own cattle and the cattle of others at will, and to plough the aforesaid land, and also to enclose the aforesaid park as it has been heretofore enclosed; with permission also to clear and appropriate ten acres in Asshenhurst nevertheless so that no part be converted, cleared, or destroyed. And to these acres and also of the aforesaid pasture he may add or take as much as pleases him, including certain parts of the waste in an enclosure beyond which the wild beasts may come and go; reserving to himself and his heirs all the wood land and sufficient pasture for his wild animals and their free range [animals of chase—wild bulls, wild boars, and deer] with a participation nevertheless in the profits arising from the woods and wild animals by our leave. Nevertheless so that the aforesaid Thurstan shall have a moiety of the pannage to his own exclusive use whenever it shall happen [i.e. in its season], the said Thurstan to enjoy the same for life, yielding to Reginald la Warre and to his heirs the annual payment of one hundred shillings at the feast of St. Michael, and by keeping the park for the lord's profit as well in timber as in hunting.

⁽¹⁾ In this epitome of Blackley's more ancient annals the author is much indebted to Mr. Harland of Manchester, whose labours in the antiquarian cause have rescued from oblivion many interesting records of Lancashire, and especially of Manchester and its neighbourhood.

Signed and sealed in the presence of Thomas de Wyke, Roger de Asswell, Thomas de Bothe, and others, at Swineshead in Lincolnshire, on Trinity Sunday [May 31] 1355.⁽¹⁾

In the 13th Henry IV. (1411) Sir John Assheton held the manor of Ashton with all its appurtenances of Thomas, lord de la Warre, by fealty and the service of rendering annually twenty-two shillings and one hawk, or forty shillings and a contribution called "putura," to the maintenance of the foresters of Horwich and Blackley, as part of the manor of Manchester. This contribution, according to Dr. Ormerod, proves Ashton to be what in Cheshire was called a "wareland" within the chase of Blackley.⁽²⁾

By another Indenture dated 8th Henry VI. (1430) Sir Reginald West, knight, lord la Warr, conveys (probably on trust) to William Chaunterell, sergeant-at-law, and Master John

(1) Hec Indentu'a testat' q^d nos Regn's la Warre d'ns de Mamceestre dedim' concessim' et hoc scp'to indentato confirmavim' dilecto nob' Thurstano de Holand consanguineo n'ro past'am p'a [parvam] n'rā de Blakelegh cū t'ra arrabili de Bothumle et cū p'to [prato] in eodem p'co cū suis p'tinent' ad pascend' p'dcam past'am tam cū animalib' suis propriis q^m cū animalib' alior' ibidem agistandor' pro voluntate sua et ad p'dcam t'ram arrandā et etiā cande et p'dcm p'cū includend' sicut includi solebat et etiam ad assartand' et appropriand' decem acras in Asshenhurst ita q^d nulla convertus assertet' seu destruet' causa p'dcā et ad easdem acras et etiam de p'dcā past'a quantū sibi placuerit includend' quadam bassa [vassa?] claustr'a ultra quā fere bestie libē intrē et exire pot'unt. Salvis nob' et heredib' n'ris toto bosco et sufficienti past'a p' feris bestiis n'ris et eor' exit' et cū proficiis p'venientibus de p'dcis bosco et feris bestiis p'cipiend' pro voluntate n'ra. Ita tamen q^d p'dcūs Thurstanus p'cipiet et habe't medietatē pannagii ad usū suum proprium quando acciderit. H'nd et tenend' p'dcō Thurstano ad totam vitam suā reddendo inde p' annum nob' et heredib' n'ris centū solidos st'lingorum ad f'm S'ci Mich'is et custodiend' p'cū p'dcm tam in bosco q^m in venacōe ad p'ficiū n'rum et heredū n'ror' p' totū tempus p'dcm. Et nos et heredes n'ri claudemus parcum p'dcm et clausū eisdem (?) sustentebim' et etiam p'dcā past'am t'ram et p'cum warrantizabim' p'fato Thurstano ad totā vitā suam contra om'es gentes. In cu' rei testimoniū uni p'ti huj' sc'pti sigillū n'rū apposuim' et alt'i p'ti ejusdem sc'pti p'dcūs Thurstanus sigillū suū apposuit. Hiis testib' Thom. de Wyke, Rogō de Asswell, Thom. de Bothe, et aliis. Dat. apud Swyneshēd in festo S'ci Trinitatis anno regni regis Edwardi t'cii a conquestu vicesimo nono.

[Seal a lion rampant.]

From the Holland Papers in the possession of the Earl of Wilton.

(2) Baines's *History of Lancashire*, vol. ii. p. 535.

Huntyngdon, clerk, warden of Manchester, all his park of Blackley, and all his lands, woods, and tenements called Blackley fields, &c.

The following is a translation of the more important portions of the Deed :

Be it known that I, Reginald West, knight, lord la Warr, have given, granted, and by this my present indented and triplicated charter have confirmed to William Chaunterell, serjeant-at-law, and to Master John Huntyngdon, clerk, all my park of Blackley and all my lands, woods, and tenements called Blackley, and all my lands and tenements called Blackleyfelds, with all woods and underwoods in the said park, lands, and tenements, growing and being with all and singular their appurtenances in the county of Lancaster, — to have and to hold, &c., for ever of the capital fee of the lord by service thence due and of right accustomed ; yielding therefor annually to me the said Reginald, &c., for the first twenty years next after the date of these presents 39 marks 6s. 8d. [£26] at the feasts of the Nativity of John the Baptist, of St. Michael the Archangel, of the Nativity of the Lord, and of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, in equal portions ; and after the said twenty years shall be fully completed, then yielding therefor yearly to me the said Reginald, &c., 50 marks [£33 .. 6 .. 8] at the same feasts by equal portions. And if the said rent of 39 marks 6s. 8d. should happen to be in arrear at any feast at which payment ought to be made and for thirty days thereafter next following, then it shall be lawful for me, Reginald, to distrain, &c. ; and in case of similar arrearage of the rent of 50 marks after the twenty years, then it shall be lawful for me, Reginald, to re-enter the said park, &c., and to hold it myself in its original state by this indented charter and without seisin of the park, &c., anything in this charter to the contrary notwithstanding — [Here follows a long legal covenant, that no one shall have right to levy except for the lord's rents and services thence due, &c., during the said twenty years. Next, that if Reginald and his heirs should not preserve possession, &c., of the park to the grantees during the

said twenty years, then the rent of 39 marks 6s. 8d. should cease, as well as the right to levy for arrears] — provided always that if it should happen that the said park, &c., or any part thereof should be seized into the hand of the king, from any cause, without the fraudulent consent and connivance of the said William and John within the twenty years, then it shall be lawful for them to hold the said park, &c., without yielding any rent therefor for so long a time as the said park, &c., shall happen to remain in the king's hands. [They are also to be reimbursed any reasonable expenses they may incur in making efforts to recover the park, &c., out of the king's hands, if they will render due service in a reasonable manner, and use their best skill and knowledge to have the park, &c., out of the king's hand. Then comes the warranty.] In testimony whereof, to the two parts of this indented charter remaining in the keeping of the said William and John, I, the said Reginald, have put my seal; and to the third part, remaining in my [Reginald's] keeping, the said William and John have put their seals. These being witnesses: John de Stanley, John le Botiller, Roger de Longford, Thomas de Assheton, knights; Thomas de Stanley, Gilbert de Radclyf, esquires, and others. Given on Monday before the feast of the Invention of the Holy Cross [May 3] in the 8th year of the reign of King Henry the Sixth after the Conquest.⁽¹⁾

(1) To this Deed there are three endorsements. The oldest, "Feoffment of Mr. Byron in Lancashire;" a later one, "The feoffment of Blakeley, the rent payable at four times of the year, with clauses of re-entre instant at every feast, but no comone passed by the said dede;" the third, "8 Hen. VI. A Gr. fro Reginald lord la Warre to Chanterell, and relating to the parks of Blakely roading [ruyding or clearing] 58m. long, and which is 33 06 08."

Sciant presentes et futuri q^d ego Reginaldus West, miles, dominus la Warre dedi, concessi, et hac presenti carta mea indentata et trip'tita confirmavi Willmo Chaunterell servienti ad legem et magistro Johanni Huntynghdon cl'ico totum parcum meum de Blakeley et omnia terr. boscos et tenementa mea vocata Blakeley et omn' terras et tenementa mea vocat. Blakeley feldes cum om'ibꝫ boscis et subboscis in dict. parco, terris, et ten. crescentibus et existentibus cum om'ibꝫ et singulis eor' p'tin. in com. Lancr. Habend et tenend p'dict. parcum et omn' terras, boscos, subboscos et ten'ta p'dta cum suis p'tin. p'dctis Willmo et Johanni hered. et assig. ejusdem scil't im-

In the 12th Edward IV. (1472 - 3,) as we learn from Sir Oswald Mosley's "History of the Manor" the manor of Manchester *inter*

p'petuū. Da capitalibus Dominus feodi illius pro servicio inde debit et de jure consuet. Reddend inde annuatim michi p'fato Reginaldo hered. et assig. meis p' viginti primos annos p'x sequ. post dat' presencium triginta novem marcas sex solid. et octo denar. ad festa nativitatis Sancti Johis Bap'te, Sancti Michis Archi, natal. Domini, et annunciacionis Beate Marie Virginis, equis porcionibus. Et post p'dictos viginti annos plene completos, Reddendo inde annuatim michi p'fato Reginaldo &c. quinquaginta marcas ad festa nativitatis S'ti Johis Bap'te, S'ti M'lis Archi, natal. Domini, et annunciacionis Beate Marie Virginis p' equales porciones. Ita q'd si contingat dictum Reddittum triginta novem marcar' sex solid. et octo denar. a retro esse ad aliquod festum quo solvi debeat et p' triginta dies, ex tunc p'x sequ. q'd tunc bene liceat michi p'fato Reginaldo &c. in p'dict. parco, terris, boscis et ten'tis distringere et districtiones sic capt' fugare imp'care abducere et penes nos retiner' quousq' de p'dct. reddit. triginta novem marcas sex solid. et octo denar. ac de arrerag ejusdem michi p'fato Reginaldo &c. plenar' fu'it satisfac. et p'solut. Et si contingat post p'dict. viginti annos plene completos dict. redditum quinquaginta marcarum a retro esse ad aliquod festum [&c. as above] reintrare et illa in pristino statu meo (?) retinere hac carta indentata sine seisina de parco &c. virtute istius carte indentate h'it ut habend in aliquo non obstant. Ac ego p'fato Reginaldo &c. fideliter solvemus supportabimus et reddemus annuatim om'ia servicia reddit. solucōes unmetates (?) et pecuniar' sūmas p' me p'fatum Reginaldum vel aliquem vel aliquos antecessores meor' vel p' aliquam aliam p'sonam, vel alias p'sonas q'm unq'm statum vel possessionem in eisdem parco &c. vel in aliqua p'cella eor'dem ante dat. p'sentem time (?) vel huerunt dat. concess. recognit. fact vel causat. aliquo modo quo de eisdem parco terr. bos. et ten'tis aut de aliqua p'te eor'dem legali modo et de jure levavi poterint except. reddit. et s'vicia capitalibz d'nis feodi illius inde debit' et consuet' durantibz viginti annis sup'adctis vel p'fatus Willm. et Johem. ac hered. et assign. ejusdem Willi inde ac de solucōe eor'dem except p' except indempnes confirmavimus vel conservabo durantibz diotis viginti annis. Ita q'd si contingat me diot. Reginaldum &c. Willm. et Johem. &c. de eisdem om'bz reddit. solucionibz immunetatibz pecuniar' sūmis ac de solucione eor'dem except &c. non conservavimus vel conservabo durant. d'tis viginti annis q'd ex tunc p'dct. reddit. triginta novem marc. sex solid. et oct denar. cessit et ponatur in suspens et non sit levabil' nec pacavit quousq' ego idem Reginaldus &c. Willmus et Johēs &c. de eisdem om'bz redditibz immunetatibz solucionibz et pecuniar' sūmis indempne confirmavimus vel conservavō eisdem Willmo et Johem &c. plenis satisfacōimus seu satisfacere de om'ibz illis denariis omibz reddit. quibuscunq' que de eis vel eor' aliquo vel de eor' terris ten'tis bonis vel catall' aut de parco terr. bosc. et ten'tis p'dta vel de aliqua p'te eor'dem ea de causa rationabilit' contingat levavi aut fieri facere tempē futur aliquo modo. Proviso eciam semp' q'd si contingat dict. parcum terras boscos et ten'ta, vel aliquam parcellam inde in manus regias seisirī aliqua de causa absque fraude consensu et conniva eor'dem Willmi et Johis &c. infra

alia was settled on the heirs of Sir Thomas West, son and heir of Richard, lord de la Warre, and Alianor his wife; and by a rental of their estates, which was taken the year following (1473 - 4,) it appears that John Biron, esquire, then held the village of Blackley at the annual rent of £33 .. 6 .. 8.⁽¹⁾

In the 22nd Edward IV. (1482 - 3,) from an Inquisition taken upon the death of Richard West, lord de la Warre, it appeared that he died seised in his demesne as of fee of the manor of Manchester, with the hamlets of Withington, Denton, Openshagh, Clayton, Ardwiike, Blakeley, and Gorton, with their appurtenances; and that the aforesaid manor and hamlets were held of the king, as of his duchy of Lancaster, by knight's service, that is, by five knights' fees and a half, and was then valued in all outgoing, besides reprisals at £100 per annum; and that Thomas West, his son and heir, was then aged about twenty-four years.⁽²⁾

dict. viginti annos q^d ex tunc bene liceat p'fat Willmum et Johem. &c. tenere parcum &c. absq' aliquo redditu inde reddend p' tantum tempus ultra p'dtos viginti annos quanto parcus terr. &c. illa in manibz regis remanere contig'int et p' tantum tempus vln (?) q^d iidem Willmus et Johēs &c. cestagia et expens racionabilia que ipi solvent supportabunt et facient arca evictionem lib'acoem recupacionem sive restitutionem dictor' parci &c. extra manus regias hend de eisdem parco &c. levar' et p'aper poterint. Ita q^d d'ta Willmus et Johēs &c. faciant debitum servicium racionabili modo p' eor' posse et scientia ad dict. parcum &c. extra manus regias hend. Et ego vero p'dctus Reginaldus &c. p'det. parcum de p'fatis Willmo et Johē &c. modo forma et condicionibz p'dctis contra omnes gentes warantizabimus et imp'petuū defendemus. In cujus rei testimonium duabus partibz hujus carte indentate penes p'fat Willmum et Johem. remanent ego p'fatus Reginaldus sigillum meum apposui. Tercie vero p'ti hujus carte indentate penes me p'fatum Reginaldum remanenti p'dcti Willmus et Johēs sigilla dua apposuerunt. Hiis testibz, Johanne de Stanley, Johanne le Botiller, Rog'o de Longeford, Thoma de Assheton, militibus; Thoma de Stanley, Gilberto de Radclyf, armigeris, et aliis. Dat. die lune p'x ante festum invencionis Sancte Crucis anno regni regis Henrici Sexti post conquestum octavo [1430]. — From the Family Papers of Sir Oswald Mosley, Bart.

An abstract of the above Deed is contained in the Kuerden MSS. in the Herald's College, London, as also an abstract of a later grant of the same property, anno 11 Henry VI. (1433,) from William Chantrell to John Byron, for a term of seventeen years, at a pepper-corn rent.

(¹) Corry's *History of Lancashire*, vol. ii. p. 455.

(²) *Ibid*, vol. ii. pp. 455 - 6.

Leland, who wrote about the year 1538, bears testimony to the altered aspect of Blackley under the influence of cultivation, and to the changes incident to the disafforesting of its ancient wood lands. He says: "Wild bores, bulles, and falcons bredde in times paste at Blakele now for lakke of woodde the blow-shoppes decay there."⁽¹⁾ Blackley continued in the hands of the Byrons, as its subinfeudatory lords, until the commencement of the seventeenth century, when, in consequence of the improvidence of Sir John Byron (the illegitimate son but recognised heir of Sir John Byron of Clayton and Elizabeth, daughter of John (or William) Consterdine of Blackley and relict of George Halgh of Halgh in Moston, gent.) who succeeded to the property in 1566, it was thought desirable that a portion of the extensive estates of the family should be sacrificed for the preservation of the rest. This was accordingly effected shortly after the year 1603, and the Blackley estate, vested for that purpose in the hands of certain trustees, Sir Peter Legh of Lyme, Sir Richard Assheton of Middleton, Richard Assheton esquire, son and heir of the said Richard, and John Holt of Stubley esquire, underwent a gradual alienation.

+ Blackley hall and the demesne passed into the possession of Sir Richard Assheton of Middleton, and was for some time occupied by his eldest son Richard, who resided there until his father's death in 1617, when, succeeding to the principal inheritance of his family situated at Middleton, his residence at Blackley ceased. It was afterwards conveyed by purchase to the Leghs of Lyme, as appears from the following Indenture:

By Indenture made the 16th day of March in the 12th year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord Charles (1636) between Raphe Asheton of Midleton in the county of Lancaster, esquire, and Elizabeth his wife, and Mary Asheton widow, mother of the said Raphe Asheton, of the one ptye, and Frauncis Leigh of Lyme in the county of Chester, gent., of the other party, it is witnessed, That the said Raphe Asheton and Elizabeth his wife, for and in consideraçon of the full somme of two thousand pounds of cur-

(1) Leland's *Itinerary*, (Hearne's edit.) vol. vii. p. 42.

In 1598 the 'Manor' of Blackley, 70 messuages, two fulling mills, a water mill, 1000 a. of land &c. in Blackley, Blackley fields and Bottomley were sold (or mortgaged) by Sir John Byron & John B. his son & heir apparent to Richard & William Assheton, the price named in the Fine being £1000 (Pat. of Lane. 1154 v. 60, memb. 68). Blackley is mentioned in 1608 as a Byron Manor (ibid. 1154 v. 2).

In 1611 a fine passed Blackley to Francis Assheton of Chaderton (Lane. A. 1154 v. 112) & others plaintiffs (Pat. of Lane. 1154 v. 60, memb. 68) and a later fine passed it to Richard Assheton of Middleton (Sir John Byron was again Sir P. Legh & some others 1154 v. 112) & others. Richard A. of M. died 1616 leaving lands, in B. of the Hous of the Duchy by his wife's service.

rant English money to the said Raphe Asheton in hand paid by the said Frauncis Leigh, and the said Mary Asheton for and in consideraçon of a competent somme of money to her in hand paid by the said Frauncis Leigh, have graunted, alliened, bargained, sould, infeoffed, released, and confyrmed unto the said ffrauncis Leigh, his heires and assignes, all and singular that capitall mesuage or mansion howse wth the apprtinenc^e comonly called or knownen by the name of Blakeley hall or the hall of Blakeley, sytuate and being in Blakely in the s^d county of Lancaster, now or late in the tenure or houlding of the said Raphe Asheton and Mary Asheton or one of them, and all and every the closes, closures, and p'cells of land meadow or pasture, situate, lying, and being in Blakely aforesaid, comonly knowne by the severall names hereinafter expressed — that is to say, The Crofte, The Great Bothomley, The Little Bothomley, The Huntgreene, The Huntgreene Meadowe, The Ashenhurste Meadowes, The Mylner Wyves Meadowe, The Haslebothome Meadowe, three closes called The Haslebothoms, the p'cell of land called The Wast thereunto adjoining, The Little Hill, The Willow Feild, and the Longe Butts,— all which groundes doe contayne by comon estimaçon three score and tenn acres of land or thereabouts according to the measure there used.

A clause in the Deed excepts from the general transfer of the property “one close or p'cell of land comonly called or knownen by the name of the Lidbothom, contayning by comon estimaçon ffoure acres of land or thereabouts.”

The Leghs continued owners of the estate till the commencement of the present century, when, pursuant to an order of the High Court of Chancery bearing date August 5th 1814, in a cause there depending, wherein Richard Crosse (now Richard Legh¹) and George Heron of Daresbury, clerk, were plaintiffs, and Martha Ann Ormerod and others were defendants, it was offered for sale in thirty-four lots, the hall and four acres of land becoming the

(¹) Richard Crosse of Shaw Hill, near Preston, esquire, assumed in 1806 the surname and arms of Legh on succeeding to the estates of that family.

property of William Grant of Ramsbottom, esquire, the purchase-money paid being £1500.

The hall was a spacious black-and-white half-timbered mansion in the post and petrel style, and was situated near the junction of the lane leading to the chapel and the Manchester and Rochdale turnpike road. It was a structure of considerable antiquity and consisted of a centre and two projecting wings, an arrangement frequently met with in the more ancient manor-houses of this county, and bore evidence of having been erected at two distinct periods. The older portion was constructed of timber and plaister, gabled, and originally protected by a barge-board with ornamental hip-knob. The other wing, erected probably about the end of the sixteenth or the beginning of the seventeenth century, was of brick, with quoins and dressings of stone. The windows were all square-headed, chiefly of three lights, divided by mullions, and having the addition of a label or weather table. It is probable



that it had long fallen into disuse as a residence of its owners, or indeed of any tenant of corresponding rank. About the middle of last century it was leased to a family named Scholes, who resided

there and farmed the demesne, consisting of about eighty Cheshire acres, for which they paid an annual rent of £70. This lease expired in 1815 on the death of Mr. Robert Scholes.

Like most other houses of similar pretension and antiquity, it was not without its traditionary legends, and the *boggart* of Blackley hall was as well known as Blackley hall itself. In the stillness of night it would steal from room to room and carry off the bed-clothes from the couches of the sleeping but now thoroughly aroused and discomfited inmates.⁽¹⁾

On the expiration of the lease in 1815 this interesting old mansion was removed and a print-shop erected on its site; but still the boggart lingered near, a spirit of ill omen. In the year 1839 Messrs. Wilson and Creighton the tenants, who paid to Mr. Grant a chief rent of £300 per annum, were unfortunate in business, and the premises were offered for sale in satisfaction of the claims of the creditors. The only bidder was a Mr. Whittaker of Chetham, who offered £1500 and was declared to be the purchaser, but was afterwards glad to pay £200 to be released from his obligation. Previous to this, a dispute having arisen between Mr. Grant and the assignees of the bankrupts' estate, the building remained unoccupied for several years. At length some unprincipled persons resident in the neighbourhood, wholly unconnected with the disputants, commenced the work of spoliation. Having pulled down the ironwork and internal fittings they sold them, and then pro-

(¹) The annals of Blackley bear ample testimony to the superstition of its inhabitants. It has had its nine days' wonder at every period of its history. Hollingworth, writing of that age of portents and prodigies which succeeded the Reformation, says: "In Blakeley neere Manchester, in one John Pendleton's ground, as one was reaping, the corne being cut seemed to bleede; drops fell out of it like to bloud: multitudes of people went to see it: and the straws thereof though of a kindly colour without were within reddish, and as it were bloody." Boggart-hole clough, too, was another favoured haunt of ghostly visitants, the legend of which has been perpetuated by Mr. Roby in his *Traditions of Lancashire*, vol. ii. pp. 296, 391. Nor has its fame ceased in our own day: in 1852 one of its inhabitants imperilled the safety of his family and neighbours by undermining the walls of his cottage in his efforts to discover the hidden cause of some mysterious noise that had disturbed him.

ceeded to dispose of the outer walls, deliberately separating brick from brick, and ploughing up the very foundations of the building, leaving not a vestige behind. No serious opposition was offered to these lawless proceedings, neither party in the dispute confessing any participation in the ownership lest he should make himself responsible for the debts of the late tenant; and to the present day the perpetrators have never been called to account for their dishonesty.

This however was but a small portion of the Legh property in Blackley. The entire estate offered for sale in 1814 consisted of 178a. 3r. 28p. (Cheshire measure,) which was in the hands of seventeen tenants, and produced a yearly rental of £185 .. 12 .. 0. The timber on the estate was valued at £500.

The largest landed proprietor in Blackley at the present day is the Earl of Wilton, who owns more than a third of the entire township. This estate possesses no features of antiquarian or historic interest to call for remark: it is in part the inheritance of his ancestors, the Hollands, seated at a very early period in the adjacent township of Heaton. The property thus acquired received additions from the Asshetons of Middleton on the marriage of Thomas first Earl of Wilton, in 1769, with Eleanor, daughter and coheiress of Sir Ralph Assheton. But by far the greatest proportion has been of late years obtained by purchase from the Hon. Edward Perceval, who had himself derived it in marriage with Sarah, daughter and sole heiress of John Howarth of Manchester, gentleman, in 1775. At the commencement of the last century, one Mr. Abraham Howarth of Manchester, linen draper, became the purchaser of many small estates in the township. These at his death in 1759 descended to his son John Howarth, who married Mary, daughter of Richard Bagshaw of Castleton in the county of Derby and Elizabeth his wife, only daughter and heiress of Henry Gill of the Oaks in the same county, esquire. By this marriage he had issue three daughters: Sarah, baptised at Blackley chapel March 5th 1748, who died April 1st 1750, and was buried in the Collegiate church in the chantry of St. John the

Baptist; a second daughter, also named Sarah, baptised at Blackley chapel August 19th 1752, who was married July 27th 1775 to the Hon. Edward Perceval, younger son of John second Earl of Egmont and half-brother of the ill-fated Spencer Perceval; and a third daughter, Mary, who died in September 1754 an infant. Mr. Howarth died December 4th 1786 at his residence in Long Millgate, Manchester (the house now occupied as the Manchester Arms hotel), leaving his Blackley estates to his only surviving daughter, at whose death in 1808 they were transferred by purchase to the Earl of Wilton.

Smaller in extent, but superior to it in interesting associations, is the Booth hall estate. The family from whom this estate derives its name originated in one Humphrey Booth of Salford, a successful merchant, the son of Robert Booth of Salford and Isabel Smith of Smith-fold in the county of Lancaster. He was a man justly esteemed for his integrity and benevolence, and has left substantial proofs of his piety and gratitude. In 1617 the south gallery in the Collegiate church, Manchester, was erected chiefly at his cost, and he followed up his good work by founding Trinity church in Salford, the first stone of which he himself laid in 1634. In this latter undertaking he was aided by the contributions of others to the extent of about £200. He moreover endowed his new foundation with lands in Manchester and Pendleton producing £20 a year, and gave a like annual sum to the poor of Salford for ever. "Being in great weakness," writes Hollingworth, "he earnestly desired that he might live to see the chapel finished, which he did; but immediately after the solemn dedication of it by the Bishop of Chester he more apparently weakened: then he earnestly begged that he might partake of the Lord's Supper there, and then he would not wish to live longer. It pleased God to revive him in such a measure as that he was able to go to the chapel constantly till he was partaker of the Supper (which could not be done of some months after the consecration) in the chapel, and was never able to go forth after, nor scarce to get home. He was a man just in his trading, generous in entertainment of any gentle-

men of quality that came to the town, though mere strangers to him; bountiful to the Church and poor; faithful to his friend; and we hope God gave him both repentance for and remission of his sins in the blood of Jesus."⁽¹⁾

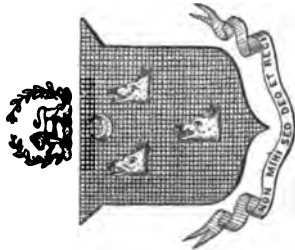
By his Will dated the last day of January 1684, Humphrey Booth of Salford in the parish of Manchester, gentleman, being then in health and of good and perfect memory, lauds and praise be to the Lord; yet for that he has been heretofore sickly and infirm and thereby put in mind of mortality, and considering that man is as grass which may be green and flourishing in the morning and yet cut down and withered before night; and for that he is now drawing into years and much desires to prevent all suits and troubles which might arise about or concerning his estate after his departure forth of this present world, and is likewise willing to be freed and disburdened of worldly cares when the Lord shall further visit him with age and sickness hereafter; and seeing and finding himself fit both in respect of the disposition of his body and mind to do the same, is therefore now minded to declare and express, and does hereby make, ordain, declare, and express his last will and testament as follows: First and principally he commends and commits his soul and spirit into the hands and keeping of Almighty God, fully and firmly trusting to be saved by and through the merits and passion of his Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, and that (all his sins being thoroughly purged and washed in His blood) he shall be presented holy, blameless, and undefiled at the great day of account appointed for all flesh. He directs that his body be interred in the Parish church of Manchester. And concerning his worldly estate, he directs that whereas there is a chapel or house for the public worship and service of God now lately erected in Salford aforesaid at the proper cost of him Humphrey Booth and some other of his neighbours, inhabitants in Salford aforesaid, and for that there is no means as yet provided for the maintenance of a preaching minister there, without which the building of a chapel would little profit, he has by indenture dated

(¹) Hollingworth's *Mancuniensis*, pp. 117, 118.

January 26 last past, made between him Humphrey Booth the father on the one part, and Humphrey Booth the son, Thomas Morte of Smith-fold within Little Hulton, gent., Henry Wrigley of Salford, chapman, Thomas Smith of Smith-fold, chapman, and George Cranadge and William Cooke of Salford, chapmen, on the other part, given, granted, bargained, conveyed, and assigned to the said parties, their heirs, and assigns for ever divers closes, &c. for the endowment of the said chapel, the issues and profits thereof to be received, had, and used for and towards the wage and maintenance of a preaching minister for the preaching and teaching of the Word of God and performance of the public worship at the said chapel or house for that purpose erected; and it is his further trust and confidence and also his earnest desire and hearty prayer to the Lord that there may be ever had a godly, learned, able, fit, zealous, and painful man for a preaching minister at the said chapel or house erected aforesaid. And some other parts of his lands and hereditaments, *i.e.* so much thereof as he conceives to be worth twenty pounds yearly, he gives to the poor of Salford town. And for and concerning his goods and chattels and debts, he gives to Ann Booth widow, late wife of his son Robert Booth, a silver beker; and to Robert Booth his grandchild, eldest son of his said son Robert, a little silver cup gilt; and to Humphrey Booth, younger son of his said son Robert, a white silver cup; and to Ann, daughter of his said son Robert, a silver . . . ; and to Ann, wife of his said son Humphrey, a silver salt gilt; and to Aun, daughter of his said son Humphrey, half a dozen silver spoons, commonly called postle spoons; also he gives to his nephew George Booth the sum of forty pounds for a legacy, and he remits the debt which he the said George owes to him. He also directs so many several coats as he shall be years old at the time of his decease to be given to the like number of poor persons then inhabiting in the towns of Manchester and Salford, and he appoints that all the same coats shall be cut out and made of the best whites which shall be in his house or at the mill at the time of his decease, and that they shall contain four yards apiece and shall

be dyed black and then bestowed by his executors upon the poor as aforesaid. To Anna Booth, daughter of his cousin John Booth deceased, and now dwelling in the house with him (testator), he gives the sum of ten pounds; to Mr. John Dawson forty shillings; to his servant Elizabeth Knott forty shillings; to his old servant Thomas Hulton forty shillings; and all the rest of his goods and chattels (funeral expenses and debts first paid) to his son Humphrey Booth. "And whereas my said son Robert Booth deceased, by his last will and testament, did mention and express that the sum of £1228 which had been formerly received by me for part of the demesne lands of Ordsall, and for some other lands conveyed to the said Humphrey Booth my son, did then remain in my hands; and that upon some conference betwixt him and me he understood that I was purposed to dispose of the same for his use, and therefore did by his last will earnestly request that I would dispose of the same wholly to and for all his younger children, and that every one of them might have an equal part; therefore I do by this my will give and bequeath the aforesaid sum to all the younger children of my said son Robert, equally to be divided."—He names as his executors Nicholas Mosley of Ancoats, esquire, and his son Humphrey Booth, and desires his cousin Thomas Morte of Smith-fold to be overseer. Witnesses: Henry Kelly, Charles Corker, Edward Johnson, Robert Ridge, Alexander Green, Adam Bowker, and Richard Halliwell jun. — Proved at Chester, October 1635.

Before his death testator had conveyed his Blackley estate (by deed of gift) to his younger son of the same name, who made Booth hall his residence, and dying in 1648 was succeeded by his son, a third Humphrey. This possessor never married, and at his death in 1680 devised his estates by will dated March 3rd 1672 to his cousin Humphrey Booth of Manchester, gentleman, who in turn transmitted the same to his second son Humphrey, the last of the family seated at Blackley.



Booth of Salford.

Robert Booth of Salford;—Isabel, dau. of Smith of Salford, co. Lanc.; bur. at Coll. Ch. Aug. 17, 1891.

Robert Booth, son and heir, mar. Mary dau. of Charles Knott of Manchester; bur. at Coll. Ch. Dec. 24, 1884.

Robert Booth—Anne, dau. of Oswald Mosley of Ancoats, Ch. March 24, 1804; 4; 2; bur. at Coll. Ch. May 28, 1828. Remains to the Rev. Thomas Case, M.A., one of the Assembly of Divines.

Susan, dau. of Sir Henry Oxenden of Dean, co. of Kent, bart.

Robert Booth, knut.—Chief Justice of the King's Bench in Ireland, and a Privy Counsellor in that Kingdom; bapt. at Coll. Ch. July 2, 1626; bur. at Salford chapel Mar. 2, 1681.—William, eldest son, bapt. Aug. 2, 1680, married his sister Frances, his cousin Edw. Mosley, his cousin William Crother, his uncle Edw. Mosley, and his cousin Oswald Mosley.

Elizabeth Booth. Susan Booth, mar. John, eldest son of John Fielding, D.D., Canon of Salisbury; died in Jamaica June 4, 1811.

Humphrey Booth of Salford, gent.—Elizabeth, dau. of Richard Whitworth of Newton; bapt. at Coll. Ch. Aug. 23, 1693; bur. there Aug. 13, 1694.

Humphrey Booth of Blackley—Ann, dau. of bapt. at Coll. Ch. April 12, 1697; bur. Salford chapel March 18, 1698-9.

Ann Booth.

Humphrey Booth gent.—living in Ireland in 1672, was the devisee of his cousin Humphrey Booth's estate in Blackley 1672.

Robert Booth—of Salford, esq., son and heir; living 1676, dead in 1725.

Humphrey Booth of Salford, esq., son and heir; dead in 1725.

Humphrey Booth, second son, living in 1676.

George Booth, third son, living in 1676.

Humphrey Booth of Blackley; bapt. at his father's house at Blackley Jan. 1, 1694; 1; bur. at Coll. Ch. Sept. 1, 1686.

Sarah, wife of James Davenport, esq.

John Booth, dead Aug. 30, 1647.

George Booth of Middleton, co. Lanc.; living Aug. 30, 1647.

Robert Booth, second son, heir at law and devisee of his brother Humphrey, executed a lease in 1725; died June 21, 1788; devised to his cousin John Gore, second son of Nathaniel Gore of Artaman and Newtown Gore by Lettice, only daughter and heiress of Humphrey Booth of Dublin, esq. Mr. Gore, on succeeding to the estates, assumed the surname of Booth, and dying unmarried in Dec. 1788, was succeeded by his eldest brother, who also assumed the name of Booth Sept. 8, 1790, and was the ancestor of the present Sir Gore Booth.

Booth of Blackley.

Humphrey Booth—Elizabeth, dau. of Richard of Salford, the Whitworth of Newton.
Founder.

Robert Booth of Salford;—Ann, dau. of Oswald Mooley of Ancoats, esq.
24, 1604-5.

as quo
Booth of Salford,
as above.

Humphrey Booth of Blackley;—Ann, dau. of
bapt. at Coll. Ch. April 12,
1607; bur. at Salford chapel
March 19, 1648-9; purchased
in 1684 and 1689 from the co-
heirs of John Booth of Sal-
ford, yeoman, the estate de-
vised by his son in 1673 for
the repairs of Salford chapel.

Booth—Oldfield,
gent.

Sarah Booth,
wife of Jas.
Davenport,
esq.; both
living 1672.
Mary Davenport.

Humphrey Booth of Blackley;
bapt. at his father's house in
Blackley Jan. 1, 1640-1; bur.
at Coll. Ch. Sept. 1, 1680; de-
vised his Blackley estate to
his cousin Humphrey Booth
of Salford, and also certain
lands in Salford purchased
by his father, for the repairs
of Salford chapel.—Will dated
March 3, 1672.

John Oldfield of Manchester, gent.—
heir at law of his uncle Hum-
phrey Booth; bapt. at Coll. Ch.
Feb. 26, 1654-5; bur. there Jan.
24, 1710-11.

Humphrey Oldfield;
bapt. at Coll. Ch.
Dec. 27, 1697.

John Oldfield,—
bapt. at Coll.
Ch. June 12,
1681; bur.
there May 4,
1745.

Mary Oldfield,
bapt. at Coll.
Ch. Dec. 10,
1683; died un-
married; bur.
at Coll. Ch.
Mar. 31, 1760.

Elizabeth Oldfield,
bapt. at Coll. Ch.
Feb. 5, 1690-1;
bur. there May 9,
1701.

Humphrey Oldfield—Elizabeth, dau. of
of Manchester;
bapt. at Coll. Ch.
Jan. 10, 1687-8;
bur. there April
5, 1738.

Robert Oldfield,
in Holy Orders;
bapt. at Coll. Ch.
June 18, 1666;
mar. but ob. s.p.
Nov. 16, 1770.

John Oldfield—Elizabeth, dau. of
the younger;
bur. at Coll.
Ch. Dec. 10,
1731.

Humphrey,
Robert,
Thomas,
John;
all ob. s.p.

Elizabeth Oldfield,
eldest daughter;
wife of
Norris; living a
widow in 1777.

Mary Oldfield,
bapt. at Coll.
Ch. July 23,
1719; mar.
Rigby; died
Jan. 7, and
bur. Jan. 11,
1796.

Ann Rigby,
born 1727,
ob. s.p.

Booth Hall is a structure of some antiquity, and stands upon an elevated site distant about half a mile from the Manchester and Middleton turnpike road. The main structure was erected about the middle of the seventeenth century; the date 1640, with the initials H.B. and A.B. which appear on the front, corresponding with Humphrey Booth and Ann Booth his wife, and clearly identifying it with that period. It is of two stories, gabled, and in form approaches that of a parallelogram; on the east side and projecting at right angles is a wing of comparatively modern date; the whole is of brick, rough-cast, and painted of a dark grey or slate colour. The oldest portion of the house has suffered much at the hands of its later tenants; the windows in the basement story, originally square-headed, divided by mullions and protected by a label or weather table extending the whole length of the building, have in many instances been blocked up and their place supplied by casements of modern construction. In the upper story the windows are square and chiefly of six lights: here, as in the base, some have been built up and nothing but the hood remains to indicate that such windows ever existed; the barge-boards are plain in the extreme. The interior presents little to call for remark, the apartments being for the most part small and exhibiting an appearance altogether modern.

At the commencement of the last century Humphrey Booth, the last of his name at Blackley, disposed of the property in part to the Rev. John Legh of Tildesley, as is evidenced by the following abstract: By Indenture dated September 3rd 1700 Humphrey Booth of Manchester, gentleman, second son of Humphrey Booth, late of Salford, esquire, for the consideration of the sum of eight hundred and two pounds three shillings, grants, aliens, bargains, sells, releases, and confirms to John Leigh of Tildesley in the county of Lancaster, clerk, all those his lands in Blackley known as The Lane, The Lower Croft, The Higher Croft, The Field at the Door, The Great Wood, The Little Wood, The Upper Hill, The Rough, The Half Acre, The Kemp Know, The Marled Pit Field, The Oak Croft, The Field next the House, The Barn Field,

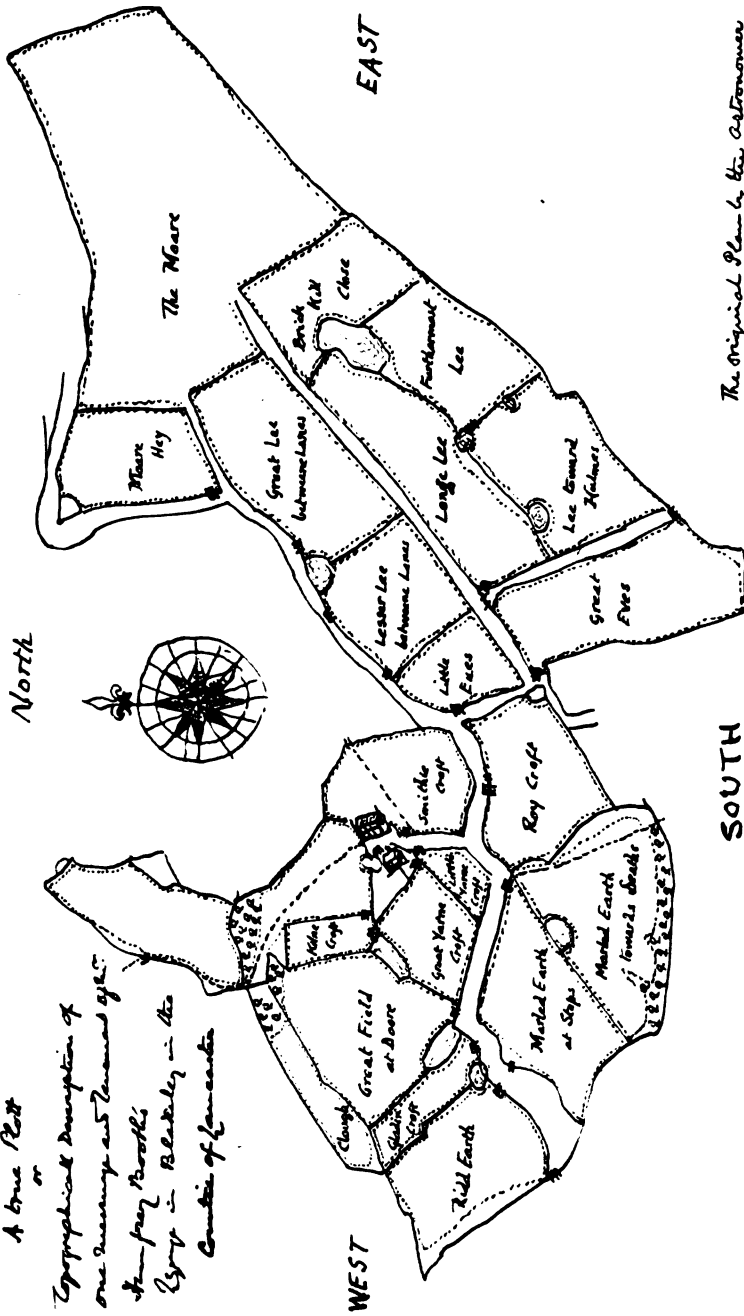
manuscript, Worcester 1037

Sketch Plan "prepared by William Cradock, Arms Dealer: 1637"

[The Scale is "of Paces of 400 Yards & 1/2 Paces"]

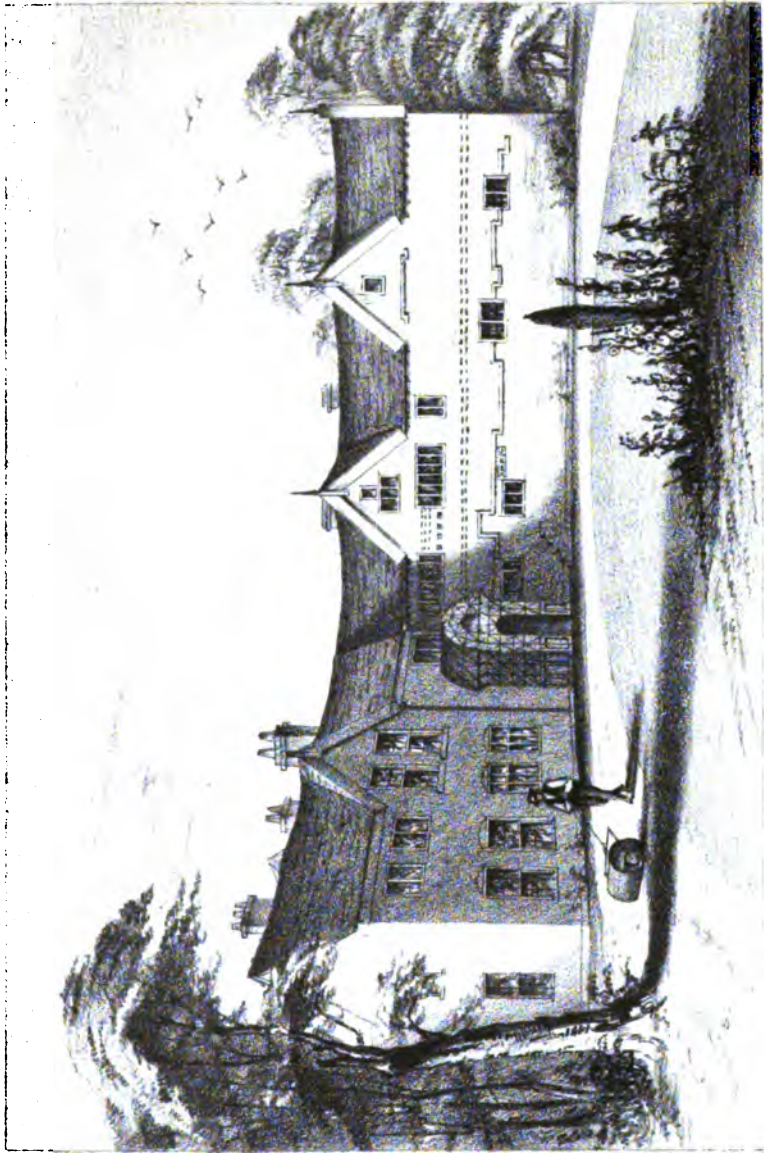
A true Plan
or

Topographical Description of
one survey and ground of
the free Brethren
Grove in Bleckley in the
County of Lancaster



The original Plan by the Astronomer
Outtree (Print of Plan) is at the
Manchester Reference Library, 1905.
This is not a copy to scale. The original
is much larger. This is only a sketch.

H. G. G. G.
Sept 1905.



Booth Hall,
BLACKLEY.

The Shaw Field, The Long Moor Field, The Little Pit Field, The Great Pit Field, The Long Field, The Barn Meadow, The Great Field Head, The Clough Field, The Middle Field, The Rough, The Calf Croft, The Field under the House, The Little Meadow, and The Croft at the Old House; in all thirty-seven acres and a half.

In 1714, on the death of Mr. Legh, the estate again changed owners, and one John Knowles, who in 1683 had become lessee of the property, (holding it from Humphrey Booth on a lease of twenty-one years, subsequently renewed to him in 1704 by Mr. Legh,) becomes absolute possessor. A link is here wanting in the chain of descent to connect it with a Mr. Ralph Seddon, who (April 14th, 1720,) grants a general release of the premises to Mr. William Patten. By Indenture made January 3rd, 1720, between William Patten of the city of London, sweet grocer, of the one part, and John Diggles of Manchester, linen draper, of the other part, It is witnessed, that for and in consideration of the sum of £240, the estate known as Knowles' Tenement, with the adjacent closes or fields, were conveyed by the former to the latter.

The property thus transferred consisted only of the outlying portion of the estate. The capital messuage and the demesne passed into other hands, having become by purchase the property of one Mr. Richard Worthington.[†] By Indenture dated August 13th, 1708, between Richard Worthington of Manchester in the county of Lancaster, grocer, on the one part, and James Dawson of Salford in the said county, chapman, on the other, It is witnessed, That the said Richard Worthington, as well for and towards the sure, good, and effectual payment of a certain annual rent of £30, unto Dorothy, now wife of the said Richard Worthington, for her life, in case she happen to survive her husband, as a competent jointure or dower, pursuant to a certain grant or conveyance tripartite bearing date March 1st, 1702, &c., hath demised, granted, leased, sett, and to farm letten, and by these presents doth demise, &c., unto the said James Dawson, his

[†] of Manchester. latter was in Jan. 1698-9 married Dorothy Diggles to whom in March 1702-3 he granted a lease in lieu of dower charged on Booth Hall, Blackley & demesne &c. &c. "belonging" late in tenure of Humphrey Booth of Salford Esq. & Robert Hibbert, & now of Richard Worthington & therefore the inheritance of H.B. & now of R.W., purchased by R.W. from Humphrey Booth of Manchester. just record one of said Humphrey Booth and others

heirs and assigns, all that capital messuage or tenement of him the said Richard Worthington, situate, standing, and being in Blackley aforesaid, and commonly called or known by the name of Booth hall, together with all those the closes, clausures, fields, and parcels of land to the said messuage now usually occupied and enjoyed, and now commonly called or known by the several names of The Great Marled Earth, The Little Marled Earth, The Chapel Lane, The Red Earth, The Brickstid, The Great Meadow, The Little Yarn Croft, The Great Yarn Croft, The Kilne Meadow, The Milkingsted, The Calf Hey, The Great Clough lying towards Beswick's tenement, The Smithy Croft, The Great Eaves, and The Rye Croft; containing, by estimation, forty acres of land of the measure there commonly used, together with all houses, outbuildings, &c., thereto belonging, except one chamber or room in the afore-demised hall or house called the Green chamber, which the said Richard Worthington reserves to and for his eldest son Richard Worthington, to come and go to pleasure; but he the said Richard Worthington, the son, not to assign the same to any other person or persons whatsoever, but, on the contrary, that the said James Dawson, his assigns, shall have the free liberty, use, and benefit of the same chamber, at all and every such time and times, as he the said Richard Worthington, the son, during the term thereby demised, shall not be at the hall himself. To have and to hold the said capital messuage, &c., on lease (except before excepted) unto the said James Dawson, his heirs and assigns, immediately from and after the death and decease of the said Richard Worthington, &c.

This new proprietor, Mr. Worthington, had married Dorothy, daughter of Mr. Robert Diggles of Manchester, and sister of Mr. John Diggles, referred to in the previous abstract as owner of the remaining portion of the estate. In 1712, Mr. Worthington mortgaged Booth hall and the lands just specified to Mr. James Dawson the lessee, for a sum of £260; and two years after obtains a further loan from Deborah Shelmerdine of Manchester, widow, on the security of lands not included in the abstract lately quoted,

i

but forming a part of the Booth hall estate, and included in the recently acquired property of Mr. Worthington, viz., The Long Lee, The Further Lee, The Highmost Lee, The Moor Meadow, The Little Eaves, The Little Lee, The Great Lee betwixt the Lanes, and the Candlemas Field; containing, by estimation, in all eighteen acres — described in the deed as a part of the Booth hall estate, and lately purchased, acquired, or had to him (Richard Worthington) and his heirs, of and from several persons interested in the said premises.

In 1716, John Greaves of Manchester, gentleman, pays off the first mortgage, and becomes himself mortgagee, advancing to Mr. Worthington the further sum of £40.

It is conjectured that the next step was the entire alienation of the estate from Mr. Worthington, and its purchase by Mr. John Diggles of Manchester; since, from the will of the latter, of a date but three years after, the property is found vested in Mr. Diggles, who therein devises it to his son.

The following abstracts of wills in the Diggles family may serve to trace the further descent of the estate:—

Diggles of Booth Hall.—Abstracts of Wills.

Will of IOHN DIGGLES of Manchester, county Lancaster, linen draper; dated August 7th, 1719; proved in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, February 28th, 1722. He gives and devises all that his capital messuage and tenement called Booth hall, and all other his messuages, tenements, lands, and other hereditaments whatsoever, situate in Blackley, unto his son Thomas Diggles, his heirs and assigns, for ever; he, his said son Thomas, his heirs and assigns, paying unto his (testator) brother, Robert Diggles, weekly, during his natural life, eight shillings; and unto John Davie, weekly, during his natural life, two shillings, for and in satisfaction of the like sums given to them respectively, in and by the last will and testament of his (testator) late uncle, Mr. John Sandiford; and if the mosse in Blackley aforesaid, of which testator has marled part, shall not be all marled before his death, he gives unto

him, the said Thomas Diggles, the sum of one hundred pounds, out of his personal estate, to finish the marling thereof. To his son, James Diggles, he bequeaths his two messuages situate in Cateaton Street, Manchester, heretofore purchased from William Byrom; he, the said James Diggles, paying unto Hannah Leadbeater of Salford, widow, her annual rent of eighteen pounds; to his aforesaid son, James Diggles, he also gives his messuages and tenements situate in Droylesden. To his son, William Diggles, he leaves his house and lands situate in Ancoats Lane; to whom also he bequeaths two messuages or tenements situate in the street called the Milne Gate in Manchester aforesaid, which he holds by lease under Mr. Booth of Salford, on condition that he, the said William Diggles, pay unto Hannah Davy three shillings a week, and unto Ann Eyres two shillings a week, and unto Mary Ridings two shillings, the same having been guaranteed to them under the will of his (testator) uncle Sandiford. To his dear and well beloved wife, £1000, and all his dwelling houses in the Milne Gate, which heretofore belonged to his uncle Sandiford, together with the use of all his plate and other household goods during her natural life, with power to dispose of the same amongst her children and grandchildren as she shall think fit. To his daughter, Ann Diggles, £1000. To his grandson, John Diggles, £1000, to be paid to him when he shall have attained the age of twenty-one, the interest, meanwhile, to be expended on his education; to whom also, on his (testator) wife's death, he wills that the houses before alluded to, situate in the Milne Gate, should descend; and whereas his dear son, Robert Diggles, deceased, has given to him all his (Robert Diggles) real estate, now in possession of Humphrey Oldfield, James Beck, Timothy Bancroft, John Andrews, James Boardman, and widow Dawson, in case all his children should die, and his daughter Margaret is the only survivor of them; now, if the said Margaret happen to die without issue, he (testator) gives the same premises to his grandson, Robert Diggles, he paying £200 to Mrs. Mary Aldred, pursuant to his (testator) said son Robert's will. To his daughter-in-law, Esther Diggles, £10

10s. To his brother, Robert Diggles, £5 5s. To his sister, Ginney, £5 5s. To his brothers-in-law, Mr. John Evans, and Mr. Richard Worthington, each £1 1s.—and also a like sum to each child of his said brother Robert, brother Evans, and sister Ginney. To James Clough and Joseph Slater, £1 1s. each. To each of his male and female servants who shall have resided with him one year at the time of his death, £1 1s. To his son, William Diggles, £200, and all his reeds, warping-walls, bobbins, and other utensils which are used in the manufacture of his goods. All the residue of his personal estate to be divided equally amongst his said sons, Thomas, James, and William. He names his wife and three sons as his executors; and he does hereby earnestly request and conjure all his children to pay that duty and show that reverence to his said wife which becomes dutiful children to so dear and tender a mother, and that they live in love and peace one with another, and be aiding and assisting to each other as far as shall be in their power.

WILLIAM DIGGLES of Manchester, in the county of Lancaster, merchant, by Will dated August 27th, 1730, gives to his sister, Ann Diggles, £1500, together with all his plate and linen. To his servant, Mary Leigh, he gives £2 2s. and his two night-gowns. To his servant, James Clough, £2 2s. and all his woollen apparel. To his brother, Thomas Diggles, he bequeaths all his leasehold messuages, burgages, lands, and tenements, situate in Manchester, for and during all his testator's estate and estates therein. The remainder of his estate and effects he gives in equal proportions to his said brother, Thomas Diggles, and his brother, James Diggles. He names as his executors his aforesaid brothers Thomas and James, and his sister Ann. Proved in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, December 7th, 1730.

JAMES DIGGLES of Manchester, merchant, by Will bearing date April 7th, 1732, bequeaths to his two daughters, Esther and Sarah Diggles, the sum of £2000 a piece, to be paid when they shall severally attain the age of twenty-one years, or on the day of their respective marriage, whichever shall first happen. To his

kinsman, Thomas Evans, he gives twenty guineas, and his little mare. To his two women servants, five guineas each. To his man servant, the like sum of five guineas, and all his wearing apparel (wigs, rings, and watch excepted). All the rest of his personal estates he gives to his son, John Diggles, to be paid to him when he attains the age of twenty-one years, or on the day of his marriage. In the event of his son's death before the time specified, then the said residue to go in equal proportions to his two daughters aforesaid. All his real estate he bequeaths to his son, John Diggles, and his heirs. He names as his executors his brother, Thomas Diggles, and his kinsman, Thomas Evans, whom also he appoints guardians of his children. Proved in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, April 27th, 1732.

ANN DIGGLES, wife of Thomas Diggles, of Manchester in the county of Lancaster, esquire, by Will dated March 18th, 1755, and Proved at Chester, June 5th, 1755, gives to the treasurer of the Manchester Infirmary the sum of £500, to promote the objects of that Institution. To the Rev. Samuel Peploe, warden of Manchester, she gives £100 in trust, to apply the same to the rebuilding of the Chapel parochial of Gorton, in case the same shall not be rebuilt in the lifetime of her husband. The residue of her personal estate (subject to the payment of certain legacies) she leaves to Anne, Peregrina, Mary, and Alice Kenyon, daughters of George Kenyon of Peel in the county of Lancaster, esquire, and Jane Kenyon, daughter of Lloyd Kenyon of Gredington in the county of Flint, esquire, and to her nieces, Mary Taylor, Ann Taylor, and Margaret Taylor, to be equally divided amongst them.

THOMAS DIGGLES of Manchester in the county of Lancaster, esquire, by Will dated August 24th, 1771, after directing that his just debts and funeral expenses should be paid out of his personal estate, and ratifying and confirming the settlement made by him previous to his intermarriage with Sarah his dear and beloved wife, gives and bequeaths to his said wife the sum of £500, together with so many pieces of his silver plate (his silver bread-basket excepted) not exceeding sixty ounces, as she shall choose. To

Mr. Samuel Bailey he gives £100. To Thomas Bayley, James Bayley, Sarah Bayley, and Hannah Bayley, sons and daughters of the said Samuel Bayley, the sum of £1000 a piece, and to the said James Bayley his gold watch. To Hannah Shore, daughter of Samuel Shore of Sheffield, esquire, the sum of £1200, and also his silver bread-basket. To Samuel Shore son of the said Samuel Shore, the sum of £100. To John Shore, William Shore, Margaret Shore, and Sarah Shore, sons and daughters of the said Samuel Shore, the sum of £1000 a piece. To each of his servants living with him at the time of his decease, £20. All his messuages, lands, tenements, and hereditaments (subject to the settlement made on his intermarriage with his said wife, as aforesaid), and all the residue of his real and personal estates he bequeaths to his nephew, John Diggles, his heirs and assigns, for ever. He names as his executors, his said nephew, John Diggles, and the aforesaid Samuel Bayley. Proved in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, September 15th, 1773.

JOHN DIGGLES of Booth hall in Blackley, but now of Brompton Row near Knightsbridge in the county of Middlesex, esquire, by Will dated November 11th, 1781, bequeaths to his dear nephew, Thomas Bayley of Booth in Blackley, merchant, his heirs and assigns, all those his houses and lands situate and being within the township of Booth in Blackley, and now in the occupation of Thomas Bayley and others, together with all his messuages, farms, &c., in Droylesden, to have and to hold the same last-mentioned premises for the use of the said Thomas Bayley, his heirs and assigns, for ever. To his dear nephew, James Bayley of Brown Street, Manchester, merchant, his heirs and assigns, all his houses, lands, &c., situate and lying near Millbrow in the town of Manchester, held by lease from John Gore Booth, esquire, together with all his houses, &c., in Cateaton Street, Manchester, to whom he moreover gives his brilliant diamond ring. He gives £30 to be distributed amongst the poor and necessitous in Blackley and Moston. To Mrs. Sarah Hoppylordow the sum of £50. To two old servants, formerly in the employ of his late honoured uncle,

Thomas Diggles, esquire, £10 each. To his executors he gives the following sums of money, wherewith to buy rings and deliver them to the several persons hereinafter named — that is to say — To his kinsmen, Cornelius Metcalfe and William Edge, twenty guineas each; to Samuel Shore of Norton and his lady, two guineas and a half each; to Samuel Shore, esquire, late of Bradfield, and to his two sons and three daughters, one guinea each; to Dr. Walker and his lady, Mrs. Diggles, Mr. and Mrs. Hawes of Enfield Wash, Dr. and Mrs. Hawes of Palsgrave Place, Temple Bar, Mr. Fox of Holborn, Mr. and Mrs. Whitworth of Clarks Street, Mr. and Mrs. Partridge of Tavistock Row, the Rev. Mr. Lindsay of Essex house, Mr. Lindsay, and Mr. Richard Evans, one guinea each. To his niece, Mrs. Sarah Metcalfe, wife of the above-named Cornelius Metcalfe, his eight-day table clock. To his said nephew, Thomas Bayley, his gold watch with chain and seals, his amethyst ring, and his chamber organ with eight barrels. To Samuel Bayley, son of his said nephew, Thomas Bayley, his microscope and treatise upon it. To Mary Bayley, daughter of the said Thomas Bayley, his silver coffee pot and a small waiter. To Esther Bayley, eight silver table spoons. To Samuel Bayley, son of his said nephew, James Bayley, his glass binnacle. To Thomas Metcalfe, son of the aforesaid Cornelius Metcalfe, two silver gills and a small waiter. To Ann Metcalfe, sister of the last-named Thomas Metcalfe, his large silver waiter, likewise Gray's Poems, in folio, bound in Turkey. To Esther Metcalfe, his best set of tea spoons and his spinett. To William Edge, Samuel Edge, and John Edge, sons of the aforesaid William Edge his executor, a silver pint mug, his violin box and music, his scenographical box and prints, three silver labels, and four silver salts. To little Nanny Edge, a gilt snuff box, a silver cream jug and tea tongs, with eight tea spoons. To William Kennedy Bayley, five guineas, to buy him a little horse with. To his niece, Sarah Metcalfe, the wife of the aforesaid Cornelius Metcalfe, all his furniture; and to Mrs. Hopkins, all his china, both table and tea table, which shall be at his lodgings at Brompton Row. To his nephews, Thomas Bayley

and James Bayley, whom he names as his executors, he gives the sum of £5000 upon trust, that they, the said Thomas and James Bayley, place it out at interest, and apply the proceeds thereof, for and during the natural lives of his said niece, Sarah Metcalfe, and Cornelius Metcalfe her husband, to such purposes as she, the said Sarah Metcalfe, shall appoint, to be paid into her own proper hands, for her exclusively to spend, to be applied for the benefit of their family. He likewise gives to his aforesaid executors, also on trust, the further sum of £5000, to be devoted to similar purposes, and the interest to be paid into the hands of Ann Edge, wife of the aforesaid William Edge.

THOMAS BAYLEY of Booth hall, heir-at-law to his uncle, Mr. John Diggles, by his Will dated January 15th 1816, devised his Blackley property to his three sons, Samuel Bayley of the Stock Exchange in the city of London, gentleman, John Diggles Bayley of Manchester, merchant, and Robert Riddell Bayley of Basinghall Street in the said city, gentleman, on trust, that they, his aforesaid sons, should, at any time after the said testator's decease as they in their discretion should think most convenient, and for the benefit of themselves and his other children, make sale and absolutely dispose of the said messuage, &c., by public auction or by private contract, for the most money and the best price. Mr. Bayley died November 22nd, 1817, and on the 26th of February, 1818, the estate was submitted for sale at the Bridgewater Arms, Manchester; but no adequate sum being offered, it was not disposed of. It was subsequently sold by private contract to Dr. Henry, testator's son-in-law, a physician resident in Manchester, for the sum of £9000. It consisted at that time of four farms, and was in extent 143 statute acres. Within two or three years it was re-sold by Dr. Henry to Edmund Taylor, esquire, of Oldfield Lane, Salford, who intended it as a residence for his son, and added to it by the purchase of other lands. Mr. Edmund Taylor, junior, resided there until his death, about four years since. It is now in the occupation of his widow.

Diggles of Booth Hall.

George Diggles of Manchester, - Elizabeth, dau. cloth worker. of.....

Ann Diggles, born in 1688. George Diggles, bapt. at Coll. Ch. Dec. 6, 1629; ob. young. Richard Diggles, born in 1681. Robert Diggles of Manchester, - Dorothy, daughter of Thomas Sandford, Manchester; bapt. at Coll. Ch. April 7, 1688; bur. there May 20, 1694. Elizabeth Diggles, born in 1688. Sandford, Manchester; bapt. at Coll. Ch. Oct. 27, 1687; bur. there Jan. 8, 1688; Will proved at Chester May 29, 1688.

Margaret Diggles, John Diggles of Manchester - Ann, dau. of Dorothy Diggles, mar. to Mr. Rd. W. orthington of Booth Hall. bapt. at Coll. Ch. Jan. 25, 1688; bur. at Coll. Ch. Aug. 30, 1688; bur. there Sept. 6, 1720. Elizabeth Diggles, bapt. at Coll. Ch. April 13, 1662. Margaret Diggles, mar. to Mr. Rd. W. orthington of Booth Hall. bapt. at Coll. Ch. Jan. 9, 1722 - Will proved Feb. 26, 1723.

Thomas Diggles, Anne Diggles, Margaret Diggles, bapt. at Coll. Ch. Sept. 10, 1672. bur. at Coll. Ch. Dec. 2, 1718. 1718.

Ann Diggles. James Diggles - Esther, dau. of Robert Diggles, William Diggles of Manchester, Sarah, dau. of - Thomas Diggles - Ann, dau. - Judith, dau. of eldest son of b. Nov. 1778; mar. in 1803; bur. at Coll. Ch. Sept. 24, 1812; died Aug. 23, 1774. Henry M.D. June 19, 1832. bur. at Coll. Ch. April 17, 1781. Margaret Diggles, mar. to Samuel Shore of Sheffield and Mearsbrook, esq. Dec. 7, 1780. 1780. Ch. Sept. 31, 1780. bur. at Coll. Ch. May 20, 1780. bur. at Coll. Ch. Dec. 2, 1718. 1718.

John Diggles of Booth Hall; born in 1716; bur. at Blackley Dec. 24, 1761, s.p. Esther Diggles, mar. at Blackley - Samuel Payley of Manchester; Chapel in 1741; ob. Dec. 30, 1772; ob. March 9, 1775. bur. at St. Ann's, Manchester.

Thomas Bayley, Mary, dau. of William of Booth Hall; Kennedy of Tib Lane, born 1749; died Nov. 22, 1817. James Bayley of Manchester, merchant. Hannah Bayley.

Samuel Bayley, Mary Bayley, Esther Bayley, - Thomas Potter William Kennedy John Diggles Sarah Thomas Diggles Gilbert Elizabeth Ann Robert Riddell eldest son of b. Nov. 1778; mar. in 1803; bur. at Coll. Ch. Sept. 24, 1812; died Aug. 23, 1774. Henry M.D. June 19, 1832. bur. at Coll. Ch. April 17, 1781. Margaret Diggles, mar. to Samuel Shore of Sheffield and Mearsbrook, esq. Dec. 7, 1780. 1780. Ch. Sept. 31, 1780. bur. at Coll. Ch. May 20, 1780. bur. at Coll. Ch. Dec. 2, 1718. 1718.

John Potter of Manchester, merchant; born 1818; knighted the occasion of the Queen's visit to Manchester in 1863. Thomas Bayley Potter, born Nov. 26, 1817. William Kennedy Bayley of Lincoln's Inn. Barrister-at-Law; born in Jamaica; bapt. by Dr. Barnes, and entered in the Coll. Ch. Registers Aug. 31, 1800.

Another important property in the township is that now known as the Litchford estate, which in the early part of the seventeenth century was in the possession of a family named Clough.

By Indenture dated March 6th, 1639, Thomas Clough of Blackley, yeoman, in consideration of a marriage theretofore had between his eldest son and heir-apparent, Robert Clough, with Rhoda, daughter of John Nuttall of Newhall Hey in the county of Lancaster, gentleman, and of £140 paid by the said John Nuttall to the said Robert Clough as a marriage-portion with his daughter, and for the settlement of the lands therein mentioned, conveys (with the assent and consent of his said son) to the aforesaid John Nuttall, to John Cunliffe, gentleman, son and heir-apparent of Nicholas Cunliffe of Wycoller, gentleman, and to Robert Halgh of Moston, gentleman, all that estate, &c. in Blackley, in the present occupation of the said Thomas Clough and Robert Clough—to the use of Thomas Clough and Susan his wife, with remainder to his son Robert Clough and Rhoda his wife, with remainder to the first and other sons in succession of the said Robert and Rhoda Clough.

Robert Clough had issue, by his wife Rhoda, several daughters, of whom the third, Rhoda, named after her mother, became the wife of John Pendleton of Blackley, yeoman, and succeeded, on the death of her father, to the above-recited lands and messuages, which in 1673 she and her husband mortgaged to one William Edmundson of Manchester, dyer.

By Indenture bearing date January 22nd, 1676, between John Pendleton the elder, of Blackley, yeoman, John Pendleton, the younger, his son and heir-apparent, and William Edmundson of Manchester, dyer, upon the one part, and Robert Litchford of Manchester, saddler, upon the other part, It is witnessed, that for and in consideration of the sum of £107, already paid by the said Robert Litchford, and of the sum of £50 by the said Robert Litchford to be paid unto the said John Pendleton, the elder—as also the said William Edmundson for and in consideration of the sum of £140, unto him already paid by the said Robert

Litchford:— They, the said John Pendleton, the elder, and John Pendleton, the younger, grant, alien, sell, release, and confirm, unto the said Robert Litchford, now being in the actual possession of it, all and every the messuage or mansion house wherein the said John Pendleton, the elder, and Katharine Clough, widow, now dwell, together with the closes or parcels of land in the tenure of John Pendleton, the elder, and Katharine Clough, widow, commonly called The Further Hoose Lee, The nearer Hoose Lee, The Redd Hill, The Meadow on the Back of the Barn, The Horse Hill, The Little Ridge, The Great Ridge, The Moyle Hill, The Little Wheat Field, The Clough, The Little Croft before the Door, The Garden Croft, The Hagg, The Backside — containing, by common estimation, thirty-two acres — unto the said Robert Litchford, his heirs and assigns, for ever. This no doubt is the estate already alluded to by Hollingworth;⁽¹⁾ and thus it first came into possession of the family from which it derives its present name.

By his Will dated June 28th, 1710, Robert Litchford of Blackley in the county of Lancaster, gentleman, considering his own mortality, makes the following disposition of all his estates, real and personal:— Whereas, on the 11th of February, 1705, he had surrendered into the hands of the lord and lady of the manor of Alkrington all that edifice or building standing in Clough Fold, within the said manor, heretofore purchased by him from one — Townend, to the use of certain trustees, upon certain trusts and limitations as in this, his will, should be declared and appointed; he now declares that the true intent of the surrender was, and is, and shall be, that the said trustees, and their assigns, shall be for ever seised of the said edifice for the use and benefit of such Protestant dissenters, called Anabaptists or Independents, within the Forest of Rossendale and the parts adjacent, as shall there from time to time assemble for religious worship, when the same shall be made fit and commodious for a chapel or meeting-place, and to no other use, intent, or purpose whatever. He gives, moreover, £150 to the said trustees, or their assigns, to be raised out of his

(¹) *Note*, p. 20.

personal estate, and paid within eighteen months of his decease, be laid out with all convenient speed in lands, the rent or profit of which (except the yearly sum of forty shillings) shall go to the minister, parson, or teacher of the said congregation, the said forty shillings to be distributed amongst poor Anabaptists residing near Clough Fold. Should, however, the toleration now allowed by law to Protestant dissenters be removed, or should the Protestant dissenters, called Anabaptists or Independents, forbear to assemble at the said chapel for religious worship six weeks in any year, then the chapel and the aforesaid sum of £150 to go to his nephew, Litchford Flitcroft, second son of Michael Flitcroft of Manchester, merchant, his heirs and assigns, for ever. And whereas, by another surrender bearing date February 11th, 1705, he had surrendered all his copyhold lands called Stubbins, within the manor of Tottington, to the use of Robert Percival of Bamford, yeoman, in trust, to such uses and purposes as should be declared in and by his (testator's) last will, he declares that the said Robert Percival shall be seised of the same to the use of the said Litchford Flitcroft, his heirs and assigns, for ever. And as to his messuages and lands situate and being in Blackley aforesaid, (except Cooper's tenement,) and all his houses, shops, hereditaments, &c., situate in Hundersfield within the market town of Rochdale, called Litchford Square, and all his freehold messuages, cottages, &c., situate in a certain street in Rochdale called Blackwater-within-Spotland, and all that messuage or tenement at or near Bagshaw in the county of Derby, and all his title and interest in a tenement in Failsworth in the county of Lancaster, in the possession of Richard Tonge, gentleman, he gives all to Litchford Flitcroft, his heirs and assigns, for ever, charged with the following legacies—to Elizabeth Flitcroft, daughter of the said Michael Flitcroft, £50; to his cousin, Sarah Gund, his sister Bridget's daughter, the clear yearly sum of £6. His leasehold messuages, tenements, coal-mines, lands, &c., in the towns, villages, or parishes of Ashton-under-Lyne and Blackley, which he holds by lease from the Earl of Warrington and Peter Legh, esquire,

he gives to Litchford Flitcroft, his heirs and assigns, for ever. And as to his messuage called Cooper's tenement, situate in Blackley, he gives it to Litchford Flitcroft, his heirs, &c., nevertheless chargeable with an annuity or yearly rent of £5 clear of all deductions, payable at Martinmas, yearly, to Henry Dickenson of Blackley, gentleman, Thomas Jackson of Blackley, chapman, John Buerdsell, the elder, of Blackley, yeoman, and John Buerdsell, the younger, of Blackley, yeoman, and their heirs, on trust and confidence that they, the same trustees and the survivor of them, them and his heirs shall, for ever hereafter, employ and bestow the said yearly sum of £5 for the use and benefit of such a schoolmaster, inhabiting and teaching at Blackley aforesaid, as by his (testator's) trustees, and the survivor or survivors of them, them and his heirs, shall from time to time be elected and chosen. And it is his (testator's) will and mind that the trustees last-mentioned, and the survivor or survivors of them, them and his heirs, when and so often as there shall happen to be but two of them living, or sooner if they think fit, shall have full power and authority to nominate and elect so many other persons, inhabiting within Blackley aforesaid, for trustees concerning the premises, (whereof the said Litchford Flitcroft and his heirs, or the occupants of his (testator's) capital messuage in Blackley aforesaid, where he (testator) now lives, shall always be elected for one,) and to do and execute all and every such acts and things for the establishing and good management of the said trust as they, the said trustees, shall think fit. And concerning his messuage and tenement in Birtle in the county of Lancaster, lately purchased, and all his water corn mill, and kiln, called Shuttleworth Mill, in Bury parish, he gives and devises the same to the aforesaid Robert Percival for his life, and after his decease to Litchford Flitcroft, his heirs and assigns, for ever. And as to his personal estate, and goods, and money — He gives to his brother, William Litchford's two daughters, Elizabeth and Anne, the sum of £600 equally betwixt them, over and above the £200 he owes them by a bond in the name of his brother, Abel Litchford. To his cousins Burnes, now living

in the town or county of Derby, £20, to be divided and distributed amongst them by his executors in such manner as they shall think fit. To his cousins, Abel, Elizabeth, and Rebecca Flitcroft, son and daughters of the before-named Michael Flitcroft, he gives £150 equally amongst them, the same to be put out to interest by his executors, and paid to them, with the increase, when and as they attain the age of twenty-one or are married, whichever shall first happen. To the said Robert Percival, twenty shillings, for a mourning hatband and gloves, or ring, together with all his wearing apparel. To his friend, Mr. John Starkey of Rochdale, £10. To Mr. Thomas Anderson of Manchester, £20. To the afore-named Thomas Jackson, his best cow. To Mr. Richard Ashworth of Rosendale, to preach his funeral sermon at Clough Fold aforesaid, two guineas. To the aforesaid John Starkey, Thomas Anderson, and Richard Ashworth, he gives the further sum of twenty shillings each, to buy them mourning hatbands and gloves, or rings, at their election. To all his servants living with him at the time of his decease, twenty shillings each. To little Simon Proctor, twenty shillings. All the residue of his personal estate he gives to his brother William's two daughters aforesaid, Elizabeth and Anne, and to the said Michael Flitcroft's children, Michael, Abel, Elizabeth, and Rebecca, equally amongst them six. He names as his executors Robert Percival and Thomas Anderson. By a codicil, dated December 26th, 1710, he charges Litchford Flitcroft to pay to his sister Elizabeth £100, in lieu of £50; and associates John Starkey with the two executors named in the will.

By Indenture dated November 28th, 1748, Litchford Flitcroft, inheriting under his uncle's will, mortgages his Blackley estate for £500 to Edward Chetham of Manchester, esquire, and subsequently, May 26th, 1764, obtains an additional loan of £300 on the same property from the aforesaid Edward Chetham. By Will dated June 4th, 1760, Litchford Flitcroft, after several bequests and legacies, disposes of the residue of his estate in the manner following: All the rest, residue, and remainder of his estate or estates, whether real or personal, he gives and bequeaths the

same to Seth Flitcroft of Farnworth in the county of Lancaster, chapman, and Thomas Flitcroft of the same place, gentleman (the two sons of Peter Flitcroft of Farnworth, deceased), to be equally divided between them, share and share alike, and to their heirs and assigns for ever.

By Indenture tripartite of mortgage, dated July 30th, 1770, Alice Bland, late of Shortlake but now of Kew in the county of Surrey, widow, and Samuel Clowes of Smedley in the county of Lancaster, esquire, and Mary his wife (which said Alice Bland and Mary Clowes are sisters, next of kin, and administrators of all the property of Edward Chetham, deceased), transfer over to James Whalley of Clark Hill, near Whalley, in the county of Lancaster, esquire, the estate so mortgaged to Mr. Chetham as aforesaid.

By Indentures of lease and release, bearing date January 16th and 17th, 1783, Thomas Braddock late of Manchester, merchant, but now of Litchford hall, contracts with the said Seth Flitcroft and Thomas Flitcroft for the absolute purchase of the fee-simple and inheritance of and in the premises comprised in the above abstracted deeds of November 28th, 1748, and July 30th, 1770, at and for the price or sum of £1550; *i.e.* £884 by the said Thomas Braddock to James Whalley esquire and Richard Cottam gentleman (executors under the will of James Whalley esquire, deceased, the original mortgagee), and £666 to be paid by the said Thomas Braddock to the aforesaid Seth Flitcroft and Thomas Flitcroft.

By Will dated September 26th, 1793, Thomas Braddock of Litchford hall, merchant, devises to his son, James Braddock, all his messuages, lands, tenements, rents, and hereditaments to him and to his assigns for ever. During the critical period that followed, in which commerce languished under the disturbing influence of a continental war, Mr. James Braddock was unfortunate in business, and his Blackley estate passed by purchase from his assignees, under a fiat of bankruptcy, to his brother-in-law, Mr. Richard Alsop, who already held the property on lease and resided at the hall. By his will dated January 25th, 1821, Mr. Alsop devised it to his eldest daughter, Marianne, who in 1826 was married

to George Withington of Parkfield near Manchester, esquire, and at her death in 1835 it descended to her only son, George Richard Withington esquire, the present possessor.

The property contiguous to Litchford, and now united with it, is the Yew-tree estate, in the reign of Elizabeth in the hands of Lawrence Jackson, who by deed April 20th, 42nd Elizabeth (1599), surrenders his lease to the Byron family and receives a new grant of it.

By Indenture dated May 16th, 9th James I. (1611,) Sir John Byron of Newsteede in the county of Notts, knight, the elder, Sir John Byron of Ryton in the county of Lancaster, knight, son and heir-apparent of the aforesaid, Sir Peter Leighe of Lyme in the county of Chester, knight, Sir Richard Assheton of Middleton in the county of Lancaster, knight, John Holt of Stubley esquire, and Richard Assheton esquire, son and heir-apparent of the aforesaid Sir Richard, for and in consideration of the sum of three score and ten pounds to be paid into the hands of Sir John Byron the son, grant, bargain, sell, infeoffe, and confirm to John Jackson of Blackley, husbandman, all that messuage or tenement situate and lying in Blackley, now or late in the tenure or occupation of the said John Jackson and Margaret Jackson, widow and late wife of Lawrence Jackson, to have and to hold the same for ever. In this family it remained until the commencement of the present century, when

By Indenture of nine parts, dated June 24th, 1809, between John Jackson late of Lymm in the county of Chester, but now of Ardwick, gentleman, deceased (eldest brother and heir-at-law of Isaac Jackson late of Yew-tree within Blackley, gentleman, deceased), and Esther his wife, of the first part; William Jackson of Blackley aforesaid, gentleman (another brother of the said Isaac Jackson), of the second part; John Goodear of Astley, near Leigh, in the county of Lancaster, gentleman, and Frances his wife (late Frances Jackson, a sister of Isaac Jackson aforesaid), of the third part; Matthew Worthington of Manchester, fustian manufacturer, and Hannah his wife (late Hannah Jackson, another sister of the

in cap. 20, 42 141: Sir John Byron of Ryton and John his son & heir apparent leased to Lawrence Jackson of Blackley husbandman a cottage and appurtenances in Blackley for the term of 40 years, his wife and John his son at yearly rent 15s. 4d. Witnesses William Pankhurst, Thos. Booth, &c. &c.

aforesaid Isaac Jackson), on the fourth part; Ann Taylor of Blackley, widow (formerly Ann Jackson, another sister of the said Isaac Jackson), on the fifth part; John Carrington of Croftsbank within Barton-on-Irwell in the county of Lancaster, gentleman, on the sixth part; Thomas Hewitt of Manchester, gentleman, on the seventh part; Richard Alsop of Litchford hall within Blackley, merchant, on the eighth part; and Oswald Milne of Manchester, gentleman (a trustee nominated by the aforesaid Richard Alsop for purposes hereinafter to be exprest) — This indenture witnesseth, that in consideration of the sum of £9460 paid by the said Richard Alsop to the aforesaid parties, they the aforesaid parties grant, bargain, sell, alien, release, ratify, and confirm to the aforesaid Richard Alsop all that messuage or dwelling-house situate and being in Blackley, commonly called or known by the name of The Yew-tree; and also all those several closes, The Green, The Yew-tree Meadow, The Brick-kiln Field, The Fossage Meadow, The Hirst, The Lockitt Croft, The New Earth, The Red Hill, The Causeway Field, and The Low Meadow — making up 24a. 1r. 17p. Lancashire measure; also two cottages situate in Blackley, adjoining unto the said messuage; also that close in Blackley commonly known as The Land Fields, 2a. 1r. 19p.; also that messuage or tenement commonly called or known by the name of Cowper Fold; also those several closes or fields in Blackley, The Great Meadow, The Lower Pingot, The Higher Pingot, The Pinfold, The Higher Foot Bridge, The Lower Foot Bridge, The Little Fold behind the Meadow, The Pitt Field, The Higher Marled Field, The Rough Field, and The Croft — in all 13a. 3r.; also all that cottage called Cowper Fold; also all those several closes, The Old Meadow, The New Meadow, The Barley Croft, The Little Wood, The Little Croft, otherwise The Stile Croft, The Far Middle Field, The Near Middle Field, The Clough Nab Field, and The Clough Nab Wood — in all sixteen acres; to hold the same, his heirs and assigns, for ever.

In the reign of James I., amongst the landed proprietors in Blackley, of less note, was Daniel Travis, doubtless a member of

the same family as Father Travis the former minister of Blackley, and whose descendants still reside in the township, owners of a small estate. This Daniel Travis married Ann, daughter of Henry Chetham of Crumpsall, gentleman, and had issue, besides other children, George, who resided with his uncle, Humphrey Chetham, the founder, at Clayton hall; and was appointed by him one of the supervisors of his will, under which his uncle bequeathed to him a legacy of fifty pounds. Another landed proprietor was Francis Nuttall; and a third, Abraham Carter, eldest son of the Rev. Oliver Carter, Fellow of the Collegiate church of Manchester. He was baptized at Manchester, June 8th, 1578, and died at Blackley in 1621.

From Inquisitions held in the reign of Charles I., the following persons died seised of houses and lands in the township: Ralph Wardleworth, Stephen Rodley, William Chetham, Patrick Edrington, William Cowper, George Pendleton, and William Heywood.

At a somewhat later period, a branch of the family of Dickenson of Salford were also landed proprietors to some extent in the township. One of its members, Henry Dickenson of Manchester, linen draper, who died in 1682, left to the poor of Manchester the interest of £100, to be paid out of property situated in Saddleworth; and in 1697, Thomas Dickenson, by his executors, conveyed to six feoffees, on trust, a messuage and other premises in Salford, the rents to be applied to the use of the poor of Salford, and expended in the purchase of eight cloth coats for as many poor old men resident in the town, to be given to them every Christmas day.

Henry Dickenson of Blackley, gentleman, by Will dated July 15th, 1718, directs his houses, lands, and hereditaments in Salford, and Cross Lane in Salford, formerly belonging to his uncle, Captain Dickenson, to be sold in liquidation of his debts. He devises his Blackley estate and dwelling house to his son Thomas, charged nevertheless with the payment of the sum of £600, equally to be divided amongst his four younger children, John, Henry, Mary, and Robert, to wit, each £150. He names as his executors Ed-

mund Radcliffe of Oldham, gentleman, and William Laters of Manchester, gentleman, to each of whom he bequeaths £20.

On the death of the testator his Blackley estate was sold, and became the property of Dr. Walker of Manchester, a physician of eminence in his day, whose descendant, James Walker, esquire, of Sand Hutton in the county of York, is the present possessor.

The name of Beswick, or Bexwick, also occurs in the earlier annals of the township; and though last in enumeration is by no means least in interest, did materials exist for doing justice to the pretensions of the family. They were connected by marriage with Bishop Oldham, the founder of the Manchester school, and themselves contributed liberally to its endowment. They built, moreover, a chapel on the south side of the Collegiate church of Manchester; and at a later period are found seated at Pike house in the parish of Rochdale. The direct male line of this ancient family failed in 1842 on the death of John Halliwell Beswick, only son of Major John Beswick of Pike house, who died November 28th, 1831.

By her Will dated June 5th, 1603, Susan Beswycke of Blackley in the parish of Manchester, spinster, daughter of Hugh Beswycke of the same, yeoman, deceased, directs the payment of her debts, out of her estate, by Sir John Byron the elder, knight, Richard Holland and James Assheton esquires. Amongst other legacies, she gives to her brother, Mr. John Jackson, iv^{li}; to her sister, Alice Jackson, xvi^{li}; to her uncle, Mr. Rauff Barker, mynister, viii^{li}; to her aunt, Mrs. Katharine Berrie, xx^s; to Ellen, Alice, Isabel, and John, her said aunt's children, xx^s; to Margaret, daughter of Mr. Adam Holland of Newton, xlviii^s; to Anne Bowker, grandmother of the testatrix, living at Blackley, all her apparel; to the poor of Blackley, x^s; to Richard, son of her uncle John Beswicke gentleman, x^{li}; and all her residue to the said Richard, and "to suche chylde as Katharine, wife of my sayd uncle John, is now withe." She appoints Adam Holland of Denton and William Ogden executors, and her uncle, John Beswycke, overseer. Proved at Chester September 22nd, 1604.

The Beswicks were connected in descent with the family of John Bradford the martyr. Margaret Beswicke, who is described as the aunt of John Bradford the martyr, is named as a legatee in the will of Henry Berrie in or about the year 1600 — a circumstance tending to confirm the supposition that Bradford himself was resident within the township of Blackley, to the probability of which conjecture, his intimacy with Father Travis then minister of Blackley Chapel, and occasional allusions in the correspondence which passed between them, together with the admitted fact of Bradford's residence within Manchester parish, more directly point. It is certain that Blackley was the head quarters of some of the more earnest and active partisans of the Reformation. °

There was a chapel in Blackley as early as the year 1548, a private oratory of the Byron family, who held the village of Blackley from the Lord de la Warre, erected probably under the authority of the license before alluded to as granted to the family in 1411. This chapel, at the commencement of the seventeenth century, was conveyed to certain trustees on behalf of the inhabitants, as appears from an Indenture bearing date May 16th, 1611.

"This Indenture, made the sixteenth day of May in the ninth year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord James, by the grace of God king of England, France, and Ireland, defender of the faith, &c., and of Scotland, the four-and-fortieth year, between Sir John Byron of Newsteed in the county of Nottingham knight, the elder, Sir John Byron of Royton in the county of Lancaster knight, the younger, son and heir-apparent of the said Sir John Byron the elder, Sir Peter Leigh of Lyme in the county of Chester knight, Sir Richard Ashton of Middleton in the county of Lancaster knight, John Holt of Stubbleye in the county of Lancaster esquire, and Richard Ashton esquire, son and heir-apparent of the said Sir Richard Ashton on the one part, and John Cudworth of Werneth, James Chetham of Nuthurst, and Edmund Haworth of Haworth in the said county of Lancaster, gentlemen, on the other part, Witnesseth that the said Sir John Byron the father, Sir John Byron the son, Sir Peter Leigh, Sir Richard

Ashton knights, John Holt and Richard Ashton esquires, for and in consideration of a certaine sume of good and lawfull money of England to the said Sir John Byron the son, heretofore paid by the inhabitants and farmers of Blakley in the county of Lancaster, and other good and sufficient considerations and causes them moving have granted, bargained, sold, infeoffed, and confirmed, and by these presents for them, their heirs and assigns, do grant, bargain, sell, infeoff, and confirm unto the said John Cudworth, James Chetham, and Edmund Haworth, their heirs and assigns, all that one chapell in Blakely in the said county of Lancaster commonly called Blakely Chapell, and all that yard or court near adjoyning to or wherein the said chappell standeth, used for or called The Chappel Yard in Blakeley aforesaid, and also one chamber or other building adjoyning or near unto the said chappel and commonly called The Chappel Chamber, and one garden or baside belonging to or near unto the said chappel or chamber aforesaid in Blakeley aforesaid, and also all and every other edifice and buildings, timber, trees, woods, and underwoods standing or being within the said yard called The Chapel Yard, with the appurtenances, and all deeds, evidences, and writings touching and concerning the said chapel and other the premises or to any part or parcell thereof—to have and to hold the said chappel, chappel yard, chamber, garden, and other premisses, with the appurtenances, to the said John Cudworth, James Cheetham, and Edmund Haworth, their heirs and assigns, for ever, to the only use and behoof of the said John Cudworth, James Cheetham, and Edmund Haworth, their heirs and assigns, for ever; nevertheless to this further intent, trust, and confidence, that the said John Cudworth, James Cheetham, and Edmund Haworth, their heirs and assigns and every of them, shall and will at all times for ever hereafter permit and suffer all and every the inhabitants, tenants or farmers of any messuage, lands, tenements, or other hereditaments in Blakeley aforesaid, their heirs and assigns, and every of them which have agreed, purchas'd, or hereafter shall agree and purchase any messuages, lands, tenements or other hereditaments in

Blakeley aforesaid, to have and enjoy the said chappel, chappel yard, chamber, and garden, and all other premises with the appurtenances, as well for the saying and hearing Divine Service as for any other necessary and convenient purposes at the wills and pleasures of such inhabitants, tenants or farmers, their heirs and assigns as aforesaid; and the said Sir John Byron the father, Sir John Byron the son, Sir Peter Leigh, Sir Richard Ashton, John Holt, and Richard Ashton have ordain'd, constituted, and made, and by these presents do constitute and ordaine and make Adam Holland and Robert Baguley of Newton in y^e said county of Lancaster, yeomen, his and their and every of their lawfull attorney joyntly or severally irrevocable for them or any of them, and in their or any of their names and steads, as well to enter into the said chapell, chappell yard, garden, and premises before mentioned to be conveyed to the said John Cudworth, James Cheetham, and Edmund Haworth aforesaid, or unto any part or parcell thereof in the name of the whole, and possession and seisin thereof or any part thereof in the name of the whole, for them and every or any of them, and in their or every or any of their names and steads to give and deliver to the said John Cudworth, James Cheetham, and Edmund Haworth, or their certain attorney or attorneys in that behalfe, to have and to hold to the said John Cudworth, James Cheetham, and Edmund Haworth, or their heirs, according to the true intent and meaning of these presents, ratifying and allowing whatsoever the said attorneys or any of them shall doe or cause to be done in or about the premises or any part thereof, as their acts and deeds. In witness whereof to these presents, indentures, the parties aforesaid have interchangeably sett to their hands and seals the day and year first above.

Sealed, signed, and delivered by the within named S ^r John Byron k ^t the elder and S ^r John Byron k ^t the younger, for their acts and deeds unto George Pendleton, for the use of the within named John Cudworth, James Cheetham, and Edmund Haworth, in the presence of these persons :	}	John Byron. John Byron. Peter Leigh. Richard Ashton. John Holt. Richard Asheton.
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John Asheton.
 Thomas Asheton.
 Hu : Prescott.
 Gab : Elton.
 John Barnard.
 William Bowker.

Sealed, signed, and delivered by the within named S^r Peter Leigh, S^r Richard Asheton, knts., John Holt and Richard Asheton esq^r. in the presence of these persons :

John Asheton.
 Thomas Asheton.
 Roger Beswycke.
 James Nuttall.

M. the xxij day of the month of July anni infra script. Robert Baguley the one of the attorneys within named. hath in y^e names of the within named S^r John Byron the elder, S^r John Byron the younger, S^r Peter Leigh, S^r Richard Asheton, knights, John Holt and Richard Asheton esq^r, entered into the within named chapel and chapel cham^r with the appurtenances within mentioned, and therein hath taken possession and saisin, and after such possession and seisin so taken and had, hath likewise delivered peaceable and quiet possession and seisin thereof and therein to the within named James Chetham gent. to the use of him the said James Chetham and the within named John Cudeworth and Edmund Haworth to have and to hold to them and their heirs according to the true intent and meaning^e of the indenture within written, in the presence of

Johan. Salmundine.
 George Hollandes.
 S. Soundiforth.

Thomas Jackson, ludimagist."

The transfer of the chapel being thus made the edifice underwent a complete renovation, and within twenty years letters were issued by the Bishop of the diocese (Bishop Bridgeman) confirming

a previous allotment of the seats therein and fixing the annual rent to be paid by the seat-holders to their minister. The date of the Bishop's confirmation of the Commissioners' award is November 17th, 1631, and the instrument is as follows :

"TO ALL FAITHFULL XIANS to whom these present letters shall come or whom these writings do come or may concerne any wise for the future, John, by Divine Providence, of Chester, Bishop, wisheth salvation in the Eternall God,—Since that we granted commission for the distributing and disposing of certain benches or seats in the body of the chapel of Blackly in the parish of Manch^r and of our diocess of Chester newly built or at least uniform'd, and for the disposing of the same seats to the inhabitants of the same chappelrey, according to their sev^{le} condicons and degrees, to my well beloved Ralph Ashton esq., Humphrey Booth gentleman, William Rathband clerke, Joseph Costerdine, William Wardleworth, John Bexwick, William Heywood, George Pendleton, George Travis, and John Wardleworth; whereas now there hath been a certificate given in under their hands that they have aptly and congruantly allotted those benches or seats to certain inhabitants of the chapelry accordinge to their forme and order expressed and drawne out in a certaine sheet of paper presented to us, and according to degree and condicon of every one of the same inhabitants, and finally they desired we would vouchsafe to confirme this their distribution and consignation of them,—THEREFORE I, John, Bishop aforesaid, willing and desireing that which is right and just, to render to every man his due and to appease or rather prevent those differances or debates [which] may arise about the things premised, and to place the aforesaid inhabitants in the aforesaid benches or seats decently and according to every one's condition according to the disposition of the said Commⁿ,—We have sent our monition letters and caused them openly to be published in the said chapel at time of Divine Service, most of the people being come together with an intimation to them and every of them having or desireing to have a tytle or interest in the places or seats aforesaid, to declare (if they have anything to object) why

we may not proceed to a confirmation hereof under this form of words, the same being published and again certified to us under the hand of Thomas Burdsell: Nothing to the contrary, for ought we know, being proposed or proved upon the day appointed, we ratifie and confirme according to our power by these presents the placing, disposition, and assignation of the same seats in the body of the said chapel; yet always providing that all and every of the aforesaid inhabitants who are placed and set in the aforesaid benches or seats by virtue of this our commission and the aforesaid disposition are obliged to the stipend or sallery of the minister who officiates there from time to time according to the rate in allotting of the seats lawfully and respectively made and annexed to these patents by them, and to discharge really the several sums of moneys imposed four times a year—at the feast of the Nativity of our Lord, at the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, at the Nativity of John Babbist, at the feast of Micheal the Arch Angel; and if any of the inhabitants aforesaid shall refuse to pay, then it shall be very lawfull for the Wardens of the said chapel at that same time to deprive any one in this case refusing of his bench or seat allotted to him, and to dispose of it and let it to another in state and condition competent and willing thereunto according to the discretion of the same Wardens, always provided that if for the future any thing in the premises should happen to be done unjustly, inconveniently, or undecently, the right and property of hearing, ordaining, and determining it should belong to us and our successors.

In testimony whereof we have caused to be added our episcopal seal to these presents. Given November the seventeenth in the year of our Lord God one thousand six hundred and thirty-one, and in the twelfth of our consecration. November 17th 1631."

This was the first structure of which anything is known, and it carries us back to the reign of Elizabeth, or even yet earlier: it is described as a low building, the framework of which was of wood, the interstices being filled with lath and plaster. A "platform"

or ground plan of the chapel, dated 1603, is still extant, which conveys a general idea of the internal arrangement of the building and the disposition of the benches. It consisted of a nave and chancel, at the junction of which the pulpit was situated against the north wall. The chancel presents a perfectly open space, for as yet no pews or benches had been permitted there. The nave was divided into a centre and two side aisles, the principal entrance to the chapel being at the west end, from which there was an uninterrupted approach to the eastern extremity. It contained about fifty benches, each of which in the plan bears the name of its customary occupant, and the sum at which it was assessed in no case exceeding eight shillings, and decreasing in value as they became further removed from the pulpit, the lowest sum paid being one shilling. The two front benches immediately contiguous to the chancel and facing the pulpit were what we should term double pews, that on the north side being in the joint occupation of Mr. Joseph Costerdine the miller and a Mr. William Rawlinson; the corresponding bench on the south side bearing the name of "Mr. Ashton" of Middleton the then owner of the Blackley hall estate; immediately behind him sat Mr. Booth of Booth hall. The name of "Mr. Paget" the Incumbent also occurs, and "Mr. John Lee," probably one of the family of Legh of Lyme, a family then and more especially afterwards possessing a considerable stake in the hamlet.

From a companion sketch or plan of a date somewhat more recent the benches are found to have extended into the chancel, so that the whole of the available space within the chapel walls was now in requisition: this would probably be the aspect presented by the chapel after its "uniforming" under episcopal sanction. Mr. Ashton had now located himself in the chancel, as also Mr. Booth, who however still continued to retain his former bench. The assessment on the sittings had undergone revision, an increased scale of payment being decreed — one bench situated in the chancel, of greater capacity than the others, being let at eighteen and six pence. The Communion-table placed at the east

end of the chancel did not adjoin the chapel wall, a space occupied by two benches intervening.

It is of this structure that Adam Martindale speaks, when relating a story illustrative of God's providential dealings in times of danger and distress. In 1645, when Manchester and its neighbourhood were visited by a sore pestilence which was attended with the most devastating effects, a public fast was held as in other localities so also at Blackley. "The place of occupation, the chapel, being very strait for so great a congregation, this good woman [his wife's mother] and another who was also a fashionable person had but one seat between them, so they sometimes stood and sometimes sat in the same seat by turns; and at night the other woman died of the plague, which I have heard my mother-in-law say never put her into any fright, but being satisfied she was in her way of duty she confidently cast herself upon God's protection and was accordingly preserved."⁽¹⁾ No evidence remains to prove the extent of the prevalence of this scourge in Blackley, the register of burials in that chapel not commencing until ten years afterwards. The registers of the Collegiate church of Manchester however show a great increase in the number of interments there; in one day, September 2nd, there were twenty-eight funerals.

From an Inquisition taken at Manchester June 16th, 1650, before certain Commissioners under the great seal of England, it appeared that "Blackley hath one chapel but no ecclesiastical benefice except one dwelling-house; and the inhabitants of Crompton, Harpurhey, Blackley, part of Cheetham, and part of Moston resort to the said chapel, and it is fit to be made a parish." The object of this commission was the re-adjustment of parish boundaries which, owing to the increase of population in some parts of the country, gave unequal duties to the clergy and was attended with inconvenience to the people. This contemplated change was not however carried into effect.

Thus matters stood until nearly the middle of the ensuing cen-

⁽¹⁾ *Life of Adam Martindale*, pp. 54, 55, (Chetham Society's Publications.)

PLATFORM OF BLACKLEY CHAPEL, (No. 1).
1603.

33 pulpit.	Joseph Costerdine. William Rawlinson.		Mr. Ashton. 8s. 0d.	
Robert Smith 4s. 0d.	Richard Cowper. 6s. 6d.	Robert Smith. Richard Hilton. 6s. 6d.	Mr. Booth, 6s. 6d.	George Travis. 6s. 0d.
John Hall. 4s. 0d.	William Heywood. Roger Hall. 6s. 6d.	Roger Rydings. Thomas Rydings. 6s. 0d.	John Beawick. Seth Travis. 6s. 0d.	Ralph Bowker. John Hulme. 5s. 6d.
Wm. Heywood. 4s. 0d.	Willm. Cheetham. Roger Naden. 6s. 0d.	John Wardleworth Ralph Cowper. John Pendleton, jun.	Mr. Paget. Lawrance Gaskell. 6s. 6d.	Law ^{ce} Sandiforth. George Smedley.
	John Jackson. Edward Dawson. 5s. 6d.	George Dawson. John Grantham. 6s. 0d.	Mr. John Lee. John Holme. 4s. 6d.	Thos. Pendleton. John Duckworth. 4s. 6d.
4s. 0d.	John Wardleworth John Pendleton. 4s. 6d.	Ralph Pendleton. 4s. 6d.	Thomas Clough. Ralph Hilton. 4s. 6d.	Adam Hill. George Rostern. 4s. 0d.
	Alexander Rydings. John Booth. 4s. 0d.	Thomas Mason. Richard Clough. James Jaques. 4s. 0d.	James Burdsell. Richard Ogden. 4s. 0d.	Ambrose Jackson, fuller. James Ogden. 3s. 6d.
3s. 0d.	John Pendleton. Fil. Jacob. Kath. Pendleton. 3s. 6d.	George Pendleton. Richard Walworth. 3s. 6d.	John Jackson, fl. Rad. Adam Pendleton. 3s. 6d.	Sicely Dawson, vid. Ferdinando Burdsell. 3s. 0d.
3s. 4d.	John Ogden. Widow Adrington. 3s. 0d.	John Jaques. Thomas Tonge.	3s. 0d.	2s. 0d.
			4s. 0d.	

PLATFORM OF BLACKLEY CHAPEL, (No. 2.) OF A DATE SOMEWHAT MORE RECENT.

		John Jackson, 3 Seats. 6s. 0d.		Wm. Wardle. Wm. Wardle.	Thomas Rydings. John Wardleworth.	John Ogden.		John Hulme. Richard Wilde.	4 Seats. 8s. 0d.		8s. 0d. William Rawlinson. John Bexwick. John Holme. John Pendleton. 4 Seats.	8s. 4d.
		Mr. Booth, 4 Seats. 8s. 0d.		4 Seats. 14s. 0d. Edmund Dawson.	3 Seats. 6s. 0d. Rob. Hilton. Rob. Clough.	Communion Table.		3 Seats. 6s. 0d.	George Davidson. Seth Travis. Ralph Dawson. Thomas Pile.		12s. 6d. Mr. Ralph Ashton. 2 yd. 3 qrs.	18s. 6d.
		5 Seats. 11s. 0d.		Law. Saw. Ralph Bowker. William Cheetham. Richard Cowper.	9 Seats. 10s. 0d.			Mr. Ashton. 15s. 0d. 2 y. 3 qrs.				10s. 0d.
		5s. 0d. John Jackson. 2 Seats.		2 Seats. 6s. 0d.	6s. 0d. 3y. 2 qrs.							
Pulpit.				Joseph Consterdine.				8s. 0d.				Ra. Bowker 6s. 0d.
5s. 6d.		Richard Cowper. 6s. 8d.		Robert Smith. 6s. 8d.		Mr. Booth. 6s. 6d.		George Travis.				6s. 0d.
5s. 0d.		Wm. Wardleworth. John Hall. 6s. 8d.		Thos. Rydings. John Wilde. 6s. 8d.		John Bexwick. Seth Travis. 6s. 0d.		John Holme. Ralph Bowker. 6s. 0d.				4s. 0d.
3s. 0d.		Wm. Cheetham. Roger Naden. 6s. 8d.		John Cowper. Ra. Pendleton, jun. John Wardleworth alias Stringer. 6s. 0d.		Lawrance Gaskell. Law. Sandiforth. 5s. 6d.		George Smedley. 5s. 6d.				4s. 0d.
3s. 0d.		John Jackson. Edwd. Dawson. 6s. 0d.		George Dawson. 5s. 6d.		Thos. Pendleton. John Holme. 4s. 6d.		5s. 6d.				3s. 0d.
3s. 0d.		John Wardleworth, alias Radul. John Pendleton. 5s. 6d.		Ralph Pendleton. 5s. 0d.		Thomas Clough. George Rawstron.		Robert Hilton. Adam Hill. 5s. 0d.				3s. 0d.
2s. 0d.		Alexander Radley. John Booth. 5s. 0d.		Richard Clough. Thos. Mason. James Jaques. 5s. 6d.		5s. 0d.		James Burdell. Richard Ogden. 4s. 6d.				3s. 0d.
		4s. 6d.		John Pendleton. 4s. 6d. Jeffry Geo. Pendleton.		4s. 6d.		4s. 0d.				1s. 0d.
		4s. 0d.		4s. 0d.		4s. 0d.		3s. 6d.				
		2s. 6d.		2s. 6d.		3s. 0d.		3s. 0d.				

tury, by which time, as may be inferred, a population, however slow in its growth, would require renewed efforts for their accommodation.

In the year 1736 the chapel was entirely rebuilt at a cost of £245 .. 1 .. 5, the expense of its erection being defrayed by voluntary subscription of the inhabitants and others. The number of contributors to the building fund was thirty. In the column of disbursements the chief items are as follows: Expended in bricks (83,000), £34 .. 0 .. 0; timber, £9 .. 10 .. 10; lime, £10 .. 1 .. 0; lead and glass (for windows), £36 .. 6 .. 8½; bricklayers' work, £27 .. 7 .. 7; masons', £29 .. 12 .. 0; carpenters', £17 .. 3 .. 6; stone, £18 .. 2 .. 0; drink, £5 .. 0 .. 9; ironwork, £8 .. 6 .. 3. The ruinous condition of the former edifice may be inferred from the fact that the value of the old materials sold is returned at £2 .. 0 .. 10.

The principal subscribers were James Chetham, esquire, £100; Sir Darcy Lever, £50; Sir Thomas Grey Egerton, £15; Mr. James Walker, £15; the Fellows and Chaplains of the Collegiate church, Manchester, £6 .. 6; the Bishop of Chester, £3 .. 3; Mr. James Hulton, senior, £1 .. 1; Mr. James Hulton, junior, £1 .. 1; Rev. Mr. Clayton, 10s. 6d.; Joseph Yates, esquire, 10s. 6d. On its completion there was a deficit of £45 .. 16 .. 1 in the funds raised to meet the expenditure. The chapel thus erected was built of brick, with stone dressings, and was in the form of a parallelogram. It consisted of a nave and chancel terminating in a semicircular apse; a bell-turret surmounted its western extremity. This structure, in its internal arrangements, unlike the former one, had no side-aisles, the body of the chapel being divided longitudinally by an alley into which the several pews opened — the pews extending on each side to the north and south walls. It was afterwards enlarged by the addition of aisles, of which the first erected was on the south side. These partook more of the nature of private chapels, having no communication with the body of the church — access being had from without. It had three principal entrances, one at the west end, and one on each

side (north and south) of the chancel. The vestry was originally placed against the north wall of the chapel, from which position it was removed when the formation of a north aisle rendered its removal necessary. The names of pewholders which appear on a ground plan of this later structure are P. Legh, esquire, of Lyme, Dr. Walker, Mr. Minshull, Mr. Haworth, Mr. Gorton, Mr. Dicken[son], and Lawyer Cheetham. The church thus erected was dedicated to St. Peter, and contained 574 sittings, not one of which was free.



On the 8th of June, 1741, a faculty was granted to Edward Hulton, curate, and James Hulton, enabling them to erect galleries along the west end and south side of Blackley chapel, and to dispose of the seats in the galleries so erected, "in order to reimburse the expense of false roofing, plaistering, and beautifying the chapel," which is therein described as recently rebuilt. No faculty appears to have been obtained for the rebuilding of the chapel itself, nor yet for a third gallery afterwards added. The approach to the galleries was by a double flight of stone steps at the outside of the western end of the structure.

Scarcely had a century elapsed when the need of additional

church accommodation began to manifest itself. As yet there had been no provision made for the poor, not one single sitting of the five hundred being free; and slow as had been the increase in the population of the township, when compared with other suburban districts, it had greatly outdistanced the means provided for their spiritual instruction.

To meet this exigency the Incumbent (the Rev. W. B. Keeling) procured plans and estimates for a new chapel, the old one not admitting of the required extension; and a subscription having been commenced, the foundation stone of the present edifice was laid by Captain Taylor, April 29th, 1844. So rapidly was the work executed that it was ready for consecration at the close of the year, and was actually consecrated by the Bishop of Chester (Dr. Sumner) on the 29th of November. It occupies a site considerably to the north of the former structure, a slight addition to the graveyard having secured for it a somewhat higher elevation; so that the tombs of the Alsops, Hultons, Scholes, Bowkers, &c., heretofore within the chapel walls, are now, owing to the change from the old site, in the chapel yard; that to the memory of the wife of the Rev. Peter Haddon was situated in the middle aisle of the old chapel. The style of architecture is that known as Early English, which may be said to have prevailed throughout the thirteenth century, and the architect has been eminently successful in following out this style in its various details. The chapel is entirely of stone, and consists of a nave with side aisles, chancel, and tower at the western end. The nave is divided into six bays, by buttresses of two stages, the upper stage chamfered and finished with triangular heads carried up to the extreme edge of the parapet, which is horizontal, and supported by a plain moulding; the windows—set upon a moulded string-course carried round the buttress without a break, and extending the length of the building—are of two lights with lancet heads, surrounded by dripstones with plain corbels, and the jambs adorned with shafts, capped and banded. The angles of the nave, as also the chancel, are surmounted by octagonal pinnacles, with pyramidal heads, crowned

with finials; and the apex of each gable is topped with a floriated cross.

The tower, divided into stages by string-courses, is supported by buttresses placed rectangular-wise, from the summits of which spring four beautiful pinnacles, in the form of octagonal pyramids, terminating in carved finials; the parapet of the tower, like that of the nave, is plain, and supported by a moulding. The church contains two principal entrances, one on the south side of the nave, the other through the western face of the tower; the jambs of the doorways have a single shaft on each side, with moulded capital and base, surmounted by a dripstone or hood-mould, terminating in enriched corbels representing heads of ecclesiastics; and in the case of the southern door, protected by a triangular moulded weather table, with plain finial.

In the interior, the nave is separated from the aisles on either side by four clustered columns, with bases banded, and having deeply moulded capitals, supporting five pointed arches, from the spandrels of which spring the main timbers of the roof. The pews are of pine, stained of a dark colour, with low backs and stall ends, surmounted by foliated finials. The pulpit and reading-desk, placed on either side of the chancel archway, are constructed of the same materials, and are in keeping with the general character of the building, the former was originally approached by a stair formed in the thickness of the wall, but is now entered by a staircase from the chancel. A gallery occupies three sides of the edifice, the front of which is embellished with arcades.

The chancel, elevated two steps above the general level of the nave, is adorned on either side with arcades, and at the eastern end lighted by a window of three lights, lancet headed, and filled with richly stained glass, containing the arms of the late Queen Dowager, and other contributors to the erection of the church; above this is a small Katharine-wheel, also filled with stained glass.

The interior has a very chaste appearance, and the whole is a creditable specimen of the earlier period of the style to which we have referred. In the general details, the Cathedral church of

Salisbury, erected between the years 1220 and 1260, seems to have been taken as an example.

The total cost of its erection was £3,300; and the principal contributors were James Walker of Sand Hutton county of York, esquire, who gave two thousand square yards of land for the enlargement of the grave-yard; Her Majesty's Commissioners, £700; the Manchester and Eccles Church Building Society, £400; the Chester Diocesan Society, £400; the Incorporated Society, £350; the Earl of Wilton, £100. In this church there are 865 sittings, 450 of which are free. The central compartment of the east window contains the arms of the late *Queen Dowager*, emblazoned on two shields.

Beneath these are the arms of *Captain Taylor*, who laid the foundation stone of the church: ermine, on a chief indented sable, three escallop shells or. Still lower are the arms of the *Alsops of Litchford Hall*: sable, three doves rising argent; impaling (for Braddock): sable, a bend engrailed argent, between two eagles displayed or.⁽¹⁾

In the two adjacent compartments are contained the arms of the *See of Chester*: gules, three mitres with labels or, two and one; impaling those of the Right Rev. Dr. Sumner, then Bishop of that See: ermine, two chevrons or. The arms of *G. R. Withington of Didsbury*, esquire, a large landed proprietor in the township, borne quarterly: first and fourth argent, a lion rampant gules, between three daggers sable; second, ermine on a bend sable, three mullets argent on a canton gules, two bends or; third, argent, semée of cinquefoils or, a lion rampant, ermine on a canton gules, a pheon argent. The arms of the *Right Hon. the Earl of Wilton*, also a large landowner, borne quarterly: first and fourth argent, a lion rampant gules, between three pheons sable; second and third, barry of six argent and azure, a label of five points gules; impaling those of his countess, a daughter of the Earl of Derby:

(1) The arms of Braddock are elsewhere, and as it might seem more correctly, given on a mural tablet, impaled as above with those of Alsop; sable, a bend engrailed argent, in the sinister chief an eagle displayed or.

argent on a bend azure, three bucks' heads caboshed gules. The shield is incorrectly surmounted by a *viscount's* coronet. The arms of *James Walker* of Sand Hutton, county of York, esquire, borne quarterly: first and fourth argent on a chevron gules, between three crescents azure, as many annulets or; second and third, sable, three bells argent, on a canton five ermine spots.

The side chancel window contains a figure of St. Peter, the patron saint of the church; beneath which is a shield bearing the arms of Edmund Taylor, junior, esquire, of Booth hall in the township: ermine on a chief indented sable, between two escallop shells argent, a ducal coronet or. Crest; a demi-lion rampant argent, holding in his paws a ducal coronet, as in the arms. Motto; *Medicus per orbem dicor*. Mr. Taylor was the son of Edmund Taylor, esquire, of Salford, better known as the Oldfield Lane Doctor; and the motto he assumes does but justice to his wide-spread renown.

Blackley had its resident minister as early as the reign of Edward VI. in the person of Father Travis, a name handed down to us in the pages of Fox and Strype. Travis was the friend and correspondent of Bradford the martyr. In the succeeding reign he suffered banishment for his protestant principles, and his place was probably supplied by a papist. On Protestantism regaining the ascendancy we find the cure filled by a Mr. Joseph Booth, who in January, 1581, was presented for "teaching without a license." To this charge he pleads poverty, and that he served the place for an annual stipend of £2 .. 3 .. 4.* In September, 1598, the chapel was declared to have been sometime without minister, "but the cure hath bene duellie served by the fellows of the colledge in the wante of a curate."⁽¹⁾ Two months later, Mr. Oliver Carter B.D. and Fellow of the Collegiate church is found located there.

(1) The very inadequate endowment of the more ancient chapels in the parish led to continual vacancies; often they were found without curates, and as frequently the post was filled by a "lector" or reader, who endeavoured to obtain a miserable pittance by keeping a school, or by means less in accordance with his sacred office. Thus in January, 1581, William Hodgkinson, curate of Stretford, was presented "for

for the will dated June 26, 1573 of John Blackley of Manchester, preacher
"Joseph Booth Minister at Blackley was left a book called Helicon
de Sect. papistica, and Questions, pccationu, and on July 6, 1573 Joseph
Booth helped to appraise Blackley's effects (Chet. Miscell. vol 5, pp 30, 32)

It is to this same Oliver Carter that Warden Herle alludes in a letter addressed by him to the Lord Treasurer about the year 1574, wherein he details the dangers to which the Warden and Fellows are exposed in the discharge of their duties as preachers at the several chapels of ease in the parish: "Almighty God preserve your Lordship On Midlent Sunday last as our preacher (who is a Bachelor of Divinity) was riding to preach at one of the chapels of the parish, being distant from the Parish church four miles, one William Smyth of the parish of Manchester met him by the way, and taking his horse by the bridle drew his dagger and beat and wounded him with three wounds, and if his horse had not broke out of the hand of the said Smythe, of likelihood he had slain him. Desiring therefore your Lordship to help us, that quietly we may there do our function and office, or else if we shall be thus beaten as before this time, and now our preacher is, we shall never be able to live with them, except they may be punished to the terror of others."⁽¹⁾

By Deed dated November 11th, 1598, James Hill of Blackley and Adam his son convey a parcel of land in that township called The Wodgrounde "unto Olyver Carter of Blackley aforesayde Batchler of Dyvynitie and his assignes." From this it might appear that Mr. Carter had fixed his abode in Blackley, discharging possibly the duties of a resident incumbent, to which he had been in a measure forced by the difficulty just adverted to, of providing for the maintenance of a minister. He is described by Hollingworth as "a learned man, who wrote a book in answer to Bristowe's 'Motives.' He preached solidly and succinctly." Campian the Jesuit made the zeal of the inhabitants of Manchester,

keepinge an alehouse," and was enjoined "that he shall not after the 22 of this instant kepe any ale or other victualls to sell in his house."—September 13, 1598: "Chowlerton chapel [Chorlton-cum-Hardy] no curate, but a reader who keepeth a school." "Bircho chapel in Rusholme, latelis erected and now voyd of a curate."—July 7, 1617: "John Dickenson, licensed as reader and schoolmaster of Chorlton."—And even so recently as the time of Warden Wroe, the ancient chapels of "Chorlton and Stretford had no settled curates for want of endowment."

(¹) Strype's *Annals*, vol. ii. p. 348; edit. 1725.

and especially of the clergy, against popish recusants, a subject of great complaint. He mentions Mr. Oliver Carter by name as one that boasted much of his learning, and sought after and laboured much to win them. Mr. Carter died in the year 1604-5, and was buried in the Collegiate church of Manchester March 21st.

By Will dated February 22nd, 1604, wherein he describes himself as "sick in body, and trusting to be saved by the merits of Jesus Christ and by no other means," he desires that his body may be buried in the chancel of Manchester church, near to the place where Mr. John Buckley was buried, or where it should please God. To his wife Alice, his sons Abraham and John, and his daughter Mary, he bequeaths his leases of land and tithes, and desires that his daughter Dorothy should have an equal marriage-portion with his other children. He names also his grandchildren John Carter, Alice Carter, and Alice Smith, and his brothers-in-law Thurstan Cowopp and Richard Ascrofte—to all of whom he leaves legacies. He appoints as his executors his wife and his son Abraham, and makes his neighbours, Francis Nuttall and John Samon, overseers of his will. The inventory of his goods and chattels gives a total of £189 .. 3 .. 7½. His son Abraham Carter continued to reside in Blackley after his father's death, having no doubt succeeded him in the enjoyment of the small estate there situated. He died in the 19th James I. (1621.)

The first *settled* minister after this was the Rev. Thomas Paget, who accepted the appointment at the solicitation of the Rev. William Bourne, at that time an influential Fellow of the Collegiate church of Manchester, of whom Hollingworth relates that "he laboured much and succeeded well to procure ministers to every chapel in the parish." The date of Mr. Paget's appointment would be about the year 1600, since his name appears amongst others in a "platform" or ground plan of Blackley chapel as early as 1603. He was of the family of Paget of Rothley in the county of Leicester, one of whose members, the Rev. Harold Paget, was vicar of Rothley in 1564. In 1617 he was cited before Morton, Bishop of Chester, for nonconformity, and being still regarded

with suspicion the Wardens of Blackley were admonished in 1622 to provide a Book of Homilies and the Articles of Religion, and not to suffer any to preach unless they were licensed under the Bishop's hand and seal. In 1631 he was silenced by Bishop Bridgeman on a like accusation, when, in order to escape the fine and imprisonment to which his nonconformity had exposed him, he fled into Holland, and in November, 1639, accepted the pastorate of the English church in Amsterdam, which he continued to hold until August, 1646. During his residence abroad he edited the works of his predecessor in the charge, the Rev. John Paget, first minister of the English church in that capital: this was in the year 1641. On returning to England in 1646 he was nominated to the rectory of St. Chad's, Shrewsbury, which he held until 1659. He died in October, 1660, rector of Stockport.

By his Will dated May 23rd, 1660 (proved October 16th, 1660), he leaves his property to his two sons, Nathan a physician, and Thomas in holy orders, both of whom he names as his executors. He alludes also therein to his three daughters, Dorothy, Elizabeth, and Mary, and he intreats his cousin Minshull, apothecary, of Manchester, to be supervisor of his will. His son, Dr. Nathan Paget, was the author of a "Thesis on the Plague," printed at Leyden in 1639, wherein he describes himself as Mancestr. Anglus. Dr. Paget was an intimate friend of Milton and cousin to the poet's fourth wife, Elizabeth Minshull. By Will dated January 7th, 1678 (proved January 15th, 1678), he leaves the house wherein he resided in the parish of St. Stephen's, Coleman Street, London, to his brother Thomas Paget, clerk. He leaves also bequests to his cousin John Goldsmith of the Middle Temple, gentleman, and his cousin Elizabeth Milton, to the Society of Physicians, and the poor of the parish of St. Stephen's. Of Mr. Paget of Blackley it is related (Hunter's "Life of Oliver Heywood," p. 8) that, preaching in the parish of Bury, Mr. Oliver Heywood (grandfather of the minister of that name), who was at this time attending the fair, and had in an idle mood entered the church, became so much impressed with what he heard that he renounced his former sinful

life, and ever after continued until his death a stated attendant on the ministry of Mr. Paget. Newcome also, in an enumeration of "remarkable providences" ("Autobiography," vol. i. p. 87) tells how in Mr. Paget's time the evil designs of an apparitor at Blackley were frustrated. Having detected, as he conceived, some informality in Mr. Paget's practice of admitting to the Holy Communion, the apparitor came in among the communicants and took all their names, and bragged that he would present them all at the Visitation; in the interim, however, "on the Sabbath morning when he was getting up, something gave him a dust on the neck; he fell immediately sick, and died within two hours." Mr. Paget was well known, says Newcome, "as a man of much frowardness," and able to create "much unquietness;" but Baxter hoped "not altogether so morose as some reported him."

Mr. Paget's successor was Mr. William Rathband, who is described as "of Blackley, clerk," in a Bond dated July 4th, 1632, wherein he acknowledges himself indebted in the sum of £40 to Henry Wrigley of Salford, draper. He had also been appointed in the preceding year by the Bishop of Chester one of the commissioners for allotting benches in the then recently restored chapel of Blackley. He was a Puritan of some note in his day, and at one time held the chapel of Ainsworth in Middleton parish, but was silenced by the Bishop for nonconformity. During the term of his suspension he appears to have supported himself by taking pupils, one of whom was the afterwards celebrated minister, Oliver Heywood. He is described by Brooks ("Lives of the Puritans," vol. ii. p. 470) as having preached nineteen years at a chapel in Lancashire, but being much persecuted for nonconformity as having afterwards removed into Northumberland. He published a book against the Brownists, which Dr. Stillingfleet quoted to prove that preaching, when prohibited by the established law, was contrary to the doctrine of the old nonconformists. He had two sons, both ministers, one of whom, William, from the similarity of name, is often undistinguishable from his father. This son graduated at Oxford, and for some time resided at Southold by Burnt-

wood in Essex ; after many removes he settled at Highgate, where he continued, according to Calamy, until his death. Brooks classes him with the nonconformist ministers ejected from their livings by the Uniformity Act in 1662.

In a letter to Mr. Baxter, Mr. William Rathband the younger informs him that his father exercised his ministry, though contrary to law, for many years in a chapel in Lancashire, and that, after he was silenced, he preached in private as he had opportunity and the times would bear ; and that afterwards, upon the invitation of a gentleman, he transferred his ministrations to Belcham in Northumberland for about a year, when, being silenced at that place, he retired into a private family. His other son also attained considerable eminence during the civil wars ; and upon the reduction of York by the parliamentary forces, was appointed one of the five preachers maintained by the State in that city. After some time he resigned his post, which was conferred upon Mr. Peter Williams.

To these succeeded the presbyterian ministers of the Commonwealth times. On the 14th of June, 1648, Mr. James Walton appeared before the Classis at Manchester, exhibiting his dismissal from the congregation of Horwich and Bolton. At this meeting Samuel Taylor, an Elder representing the congregation at Blackley, signified the assent and desire of the people of Blackley to have Mr. Walton for their minister. The assembly postponed its decision until it had received confirmatory evidence of the unanimity of the Blackley congregation, which being adduced Mr. Walton was forthwith nominated to the cure. He seems to have held it about four years, giving but moderate satisfaction to his patrons. From the report of the Parliamentary Commission of 1650 it appears that Mr. Walton had "manifested dissatisfaction to the present government by neglecting to observe days of humiliation and thanksgiving appointed by ordinance of parliament, and by speaking against the engagement, by reason whereof the place [Blackley] these days was not supplied." The endowment of the living was at this period very small and uncertain, consisting of

the parsonage-house, Mr. Chetham's bequest producing a few shillings per annum, and such sums as the inhabitants were pleased voluntarily to give in lieu of tithes, from the payment of which they were now absolved. He afterwards went to Shaw chapel in the parish of Prestwich, from which he was ejected on the passing of the Uniformity Act in 1662. After his expulsion he suffered great privations, and died two years afterwards, aged sixty-four. Calamy describes him as a laborious and faithful minister.

On the 14th of December, 1652, Mr. Samuel Smith was introduced by the Elders of Blackley as Mr. Walton's successor, and appointed to preach before the Classis as minister expectant, with a view to ordination. In this capacity he is still found in April, 1653, when, from some cause or other unexplained, he ceased from his duties, giving place to the Rev. Thomas Holland minister of Ringley in Prestwich parish.

Mr. Holland was M.A. of the University of Edinburgh, and had taken the national covenant in 1647, when he presented himself before the Manchester Classis for ordination, having received a call to Ringley. The subject then propounded for his ordination-thesis was "An fides justific. potest amitti?" Mr. Holland continued at Blackley until the year 1662, when his name appears in the list of ministers ejected from their livings by the Uniformity Act. When silenced, he removed to a house of his own near Newton Heath and lived in private. He died in 1675, aged fifty-seven, and left several children. "He had sore affliction," writes Calamy, "in his body and estate, and was taken off from his work some years before he died, but had been an able and diligent preacher in the former part of his life."⁽¹⁾ He was a gentleman by birth, a member of the ancient family of that name for many generations settled at Denton and Heaton in this county.

In a list of ministers conforming in 1662 occurs the name of James Booker of Blackley, assistant minister of the chapel. Whether his conformity secured him a continuance there does

(¹) Calamy's *Abridgment*, vol. ii. p. 396.

not appear. A minister of this name is found ten years later at Sowerby in the parish of Halifax.

In 1665, at the first Episcopal Visitation after the Restoration, the curacy of Blackley is returned as then vacant.

In the year 1668 the name of John Brereton appears in the registers of the chapel as minister of Blackley. A Mr. John Brereton was rector of Wilmslow in Cheshire in 1654, the register of that church testifying under the date December 12th, 1654, to the baptism of Susannah, daughter of Mr. John Brereton, rector. He was turned out at the Restoration. In 1662 one Mr. Brereton is found minister at Ringey chapel, near Bowdon in Cheshire, at one time an episcopal chapel, but latterly much frequented by "schismatical mixtures." These dates render it probable that the same person is intended, and consist with the not unlikely supposition that Mr. Brereton conformed, and afterwards accepted the cure of Blackley.

On the 21st May, 1669, John Dawson B.A. of Jesus college, Cambridge, was licensed to the cure by Richard (Sterne) Archbishop of York, and exhibited his license and letters of orders at the Episcopal Visitation in 1671. At the next Visitation, held in 1674, "Icobod ffurnesse B.A." was found curate of the chapel. He was only in deacon's orders, and unlicensed. His successor was William Bray B.A. of Emmanuel college, Cambridge, who was found discharging the office of curate, though unlicensed, at the Visitation in 1677.

On the 19th of July, 1683, John Morton was licensed to the curacy by John (Pearson) Bishop of Chester: it does not appear on whose nomination. He exhibited his papers at the several Visitations from 1686 to 1701. He resigned in 1704, and dying in 1707 was buried (May 9) at Blackley chapel, where, within a month of their father's death, were likewise interred two of his daughters. Mary Morton, who died in 1727, and Daniel Morton, who died in 1733, each left to the chapel a silver flagon for use at the Holy Communion. These benefactors were son and daughter of the Rev. John Morton, and were both buried at Blackley.

At the Visitation in 1705 the vacancy caused by the resignation of Mr. Morton was still unsupplied, but a successor was shortly afterwards found in the person of Nathaniel Bann, clerk, who answered as curate of Blackley at the Visitation of 1709, but exhibited no license. He was a member of Jesus college, Cambridge, where he graduated B.A. 1690, M.A. 1694. The name of Mr. Nathaniel Bann occurs in a list of nonconforming ministers, as ejected from Caldecote in Rutlandshire on the passing of the Act of Uniformity in 1662. He afterwards settled in Manchester, where he practised physic. This would probably be the father of Mr. Bann of Blackley. In 1712 the Rev. Nathaniel Bann was appointed to St. Ann's, Manchester, of which church he was the first rector. He died in 1736.

The state of church matters in Blackley in the year 1707 is thus described by Dr. Wroe: "Blackley hath been a large congregation and maintained a curate well, but the subscriptions are now fallen, and little else belongs to it, only this year one of our town [George Grimshaw, a malster of Manchester] has left to it the interest of one hundred pounds for ever, and the rent of a house after a woman's life (Ann Bowyer, his servant) worth seven or eight pounds per annum."

Mr. Bann's successor at Blackley was William Whitehead B.A. He remained at Blackley until the year 1716, being present as curate of the chapel at the Visitation held in that year. He also was unlicensed.

On the 23rd of November, 1716, Edward Hulton B.A. of Brasenose college, Oxford, and Hulmian exhibitioner, was nominated to the curacy by the Warden and Fellows of Manchester, being then unordained but in immediate expectation of receiving holy orders. His nomination was signed by Richard Wroe, warden, and Roger Bolton and Robert Assheton, fellows. His priest's orders were delayed until the year 1727. Scarcely had Mr. Hulton received his appointment to Blackley when, from some cause or other now unknown, an attempt was made to cancel his license and to supersede him in the curacy — a design which seems to have originated

with his patrons, the Warden and Fellows of the Collegiate church of Manchester. Such, however, was the determined opposition of the inhabitants of Blackley, who undertook his cause, that the attempt was not persisted in. A petition bearing ninety-seven signatures of individuals resident within the chapelry, showed at once their appreciation of Mr. Hulton's worth and their sense of the injustice proposed to be exercised towards him: "To the Worshipful Dr. Wainwright, Chancellor of Chester, — We the inhabitants of Blackley in the parish of Manchester (being very well satisfied with the learning, preaching, and morality of the Rev. Mr. Edward Hulton A.B., of late licensed by you preacher of Blackley chapel) do hereby certify to your Worship that if the said Mr. Hulton be continued minister there 'twill very much conduce to the peace of that chapel, and (we doubt not) will be very effectual towards lessening the number of the dissenting party of that place. But if (by recalling his license) he be forbid there to officiate, that then we the present supporters of the said chapel and ministry there will forthwith withdraw (though very unwilling) our presence and contribution from it, the intolerable proceeding of the Warden and Fellows of Manchester in this Mr. Hulton's affair provoking us thereto. This, your Worship may reasonably guess, will be great cause of rejoicing to the enemies of our established church, and especially by those of that place who are likely to triumph in the ruins of that parochial chapel. In witness of the above-written, we the persons aforesaid have set our hands this 11 day of February, 1716-7." Mr. Hulton was a native of Blackley, his family being engaged in mercantile pursuits and resident in the township for some half century. Their place of business was situated in Lyon Fold near the site of Blackley hall. Mr. Hulton afterwards received the appointment of domestic chaplain to the Earl of Glencairn. He held the living for the long period of forty-six years; and his descendants are still connected with Blackley, where they own a small estate. He died in April, 1763, and was buried in the chapel.

On the death of Mr. Hulton a contest arose between the Warden

and Fellows of Manchester and the inhabitants of Blackley, as to the right of appointing a successor; the inhabitants (through trustees) asserting their claim under the authority of a deed of conveyance already quoted,⁽¹⁾ bearing date May 16th, 1611, by which the chapel, &c., was conveyed to certain trustees for the use of the inhabitants for ever; and the Warden and Fellows appealing to precedent. It is worthy of remark that, not only in the case of Blackley but with respect to almost every other of the ancient chapels within the parish of Manchester, similar disputes as to right of patronage have at one time or other arisen. Erected at a period when very scanty funds were provided for their endowment, the bold assertion of a right to nominate the minister would have brought with it the responsibility of providing for the efficient discharge of the duty; consequently the claim of the Warden and Fellows to present (whatever it might be) was waived by them in favour of the founder of the chapel, his heirs or assigns, who in consenting to nominate tacitly admitted his liability to provide suitably for the minister's maintenance, and thus released the Warden and Fellows from all responsibility. When, however, by the operation of Queen Anne's bounty, the several chapels became benefices, receiving a competent endowment, the Warden and Fellows revived their dormant claim. Mr. Hulton died April 16th, 1763, and on the 19th of April the Warden and Fellows nominated the Rev. Peter Haddon M.A., curate of St. Mary's church, Manchester, to the vacant chapel; the nomination being signed by Charles Downes (proxy for the warden), Richard Assheton, John Clayton, and Thomas Aynscough, fellows. This led to a counter-nomination on the part of the inhabitants, bearing date April 21st, 1763, but which is endorsed as tendered to the Bishop, October 7th, 1763.

This document emanated from Joshua Cudworth of Dunleary in the county of Dublin, gentleman, who represented himself as great-great-grandson and heir-at-law of John Cudworth of Werneeth, one of the parties to the Indenture of May 16th, 1611. He

(¹) See p. 49.

states therein that the families of the co-trustees of his ancestor (James Chetham and Edmund Haworth) have long since become extinct, remote and unknown ; and believing himself to be sole in authority he proceeds to nominate, on behalf of the inhabitants of the chapelry, the Rev. Samuel Townson of Oldham, clerk, granting to the said Samuel Townson the said chapel of Blackley with all its appurtenances, to hold and enjoy the same for and during the term of his natural life. This nomination being adhered to by the inhabitants, who refused to receive the nominee of the Warden and Fellows, although duly licensed by the Bishop, the case was submitted for adjudication in the Ecclesiastical court. At this period, such was the state of feeling in Blackley that no service was permitted to take place within the chapel walls, whilst even the dead were suffered to be interred without the rites of Christian sepulture, each party resisting the claim of the other to officiate. At first a doubt arose as to whether the Bishop possessed any jurisdiction, the chapel being originally a private or domestic chapel, and there being no evidence of its ever having received consecration. This difficulty overcome, the trial proceeded with as much expedition as might be, and the case stands recorded in the minutes of proceedings in the Consistory court at Chester, as The Rev. Peter Haddon, clerk, against Samuel Davenport of Blackley, the defendant being the sexton of the chapel and the tool of his party, who had been put in possession of the premises, with directions to yield them up to no one who had not the approval of the chapelry.

Edmund by Divine permission Lord Bishop of Chester to all and singular clerks and literate persons whomsoever and wheresoever within and throughout the whole diocese of Chester greeting. Whereas upon a representation made to us on the part of the Rev. Peter Haddon, clerk, the licensed curate or minister of the chapel of Blackley within the parish of Manchester and county of Lancaster and our diocese of Chester, That Samuel Davenport of Blackley aforesaid the pretended sexton, there detained and kept in his possession the key of the said chapel and refused to

deliver the same to the said Peter Haddon, thereby wholly obstructing the performance of Divine service in the said chapel, We rightly and lawfully proceeding did at the petition of the said Peter Haddon issue forth a monition against the said Samuel Davenport to deliver to the said Peter Haddon the key of the said chapel: And whereas we have been certified that the said Samuel Davenport hath been diligently sought for at the house of his usual habitation but could not be there found, or our said monition be personally executed upon him; and the Rev. Abel Ward, clerk, Master of Arts, the lawful surrogate of the Rev. Samuel Peploe, clerk, Bachelor of Laws, our vicar general and official principal, therefore rightly, lawfully, and judicially proceeding at the petition of the proctor of the said Peter Haddon hath decreed the said Samuel Davenport to be admonished and cited in the manner and form and to the effect hereunder written, justice so requiring; We therefore do hereby authorise and strictly enjoin and command you jointly and severally (by publication of these presents immediately after the repetition of the Nicene creed in time of Divine morning service in the Collegiate and Parish church of Manchester aforesaid on the first Sunday after your receipt thereof and by affixing the same upon the outward door of the said chapel of Blackley or of the house of the usual habitation of the said Samuel Davenport, and by any other lawful ways and means whereby the same may most likely come to knowledge) to admonish by our episcopal authority the said Samuel Davenport to deliver or cause to be delivered to the said Peter Haddon the key of the said chapel of Blackley, and to certify the delivery thereof to us, our vicar general, his lawful surrogate, or other competent judge in that behalf on or before Thursday the 2 day of June next ensuing, otherwise to appear before us in the Consistory court within the Cathedral church of Chester upon the said 2nd day of June next, and shew and propound in due form of law a reasonable and lawful cause, if he can, why by reason of his contempt of the ecclesiastical laws and this our admonition he ought not to be excommunicated. Dated under the seal of our vicar general

which we use in this behalf the fifth day of May 1763. By decree of court.

[Signed]

Hugh Speed, Dep. Reg.

This monition was published in the Collegiate church of Manchester May 15th, 1763, a personal service having been made thereof on Samuel Davenport the day preceding. At the time and place appointed Samuel Davenport appeared by his proctor (Robert Herbert) and alleged that the freehold of the chapel of Blackley was in certain trustees for the benefit of the inhabitants, and that the right of nominating the curate is, and from time immemorial has been, in the said trustees or inhabitants; and that the said Peter Haddon, clerk, by his pretended license has not nor ought to have any right either to the possession of the said chapel or to the key of the same, and praying that the said Samuel Davenport be dismissed with his costs, and that right justice may be effectually administered. It was contended, on the other hand, by the proctor for the plaintiff (Store) that the said allegation ought to be rejected; whereupon the surrogate deliberated upon the admission of the said allegation and prorogued the further expedition of this cause to his own dwelling-house near the Cathedral church of Chester, notoriously situate, at the hour of three in the afternoon of the same day, and decreed the certificate of the monition to be continued at that time and place — when and where, before the surrogate, in the presence of the deputy register aforesaid, the proctors aforesaid appearing, Store prayed that the defendant for his contumacy in not obeying the monition might be decreed to be excommunicated; whereupon the surrogate pronounced the defendant contumacious in not obeying the monition aforesaid, and in pain of such his contempt decreed him to be excommunicated.

From this decision an appeal was threatened by the defendant's counsel and a reversal of judgment was in fact sought before a civil tribunal at the county assizes held at Lancaster, the inhabitants of Blackley securing the services of Mr. Norton the solicitor-general, but here also the opinion of the court was adverse to their

claim. Nothing now remaining but a quiet submission they abandoned the contest, and after giving vent to their spleen against Mr. Haddon in various petty annoyances a better feeling sprung up and past animosities were forgotten. Mr. Haddon was a native of Warrington and was educated at Brasenose college, Oxford. His father was rector of Warrington and his grandfather vicar of Bolton. On the 19th of April, 1763, being then curate of St. Mary's, Manchester, he was nominated to the perpetual curacy of Blackley, where he continued to reside until appointed to the vicarage of Leeds December 24th, 1786. He died at Leeds of a gradual decay of nature February 22nd, 1815, in the 78th year of his age. Whitaker describes him as a graceful person, of a cheerful countenance, musical voice, the deportment of a gentleman, and an invariable tranquillity of temper, which, while they ensured to him many friends, would not have left him an enemy had not a firm attachment to the constitution of his country in Church and State drawn down upon him at one period a portion of indignation from that rabble who were most indebted to him for the lenity and forbearance which he always displayed in the exaction of his rights.⁽¹⁾

On the 2nd of January, 1787, the Rev. John Griffith M.A. was preferred to the perpetual curacy of Blackley by the Warden and Fellows of Manchester, vacant by the resignation of the Rev. Peter Haddon. The nomination was signed by Richard Assheton, warden, T. Aynscough, Maurice Griffith, and James Bayley, fellows. In 1790 he was appointed to one of the chaplaincies in the Collegiate church, and November 18th, 1793, was elected fellow; after which time he fixed his residence in Manchester, assigning the charge of Blackley to an assistant curate, the Rev. Thomas Gaskell, who was appointed July 24th, 1794, at a stipend of £50 per annum. In 1805 the Rev. Richard Alexander Singleton was licensed as assistant curate of Blackley, and on the death of Mr. Griffith in 1809 was advanced to the incumbency, his nomination bearing date February 11th, 1809, and being signed by

(¹) *Loidis and Elmete*, pp. 48, 49.

Thomas Blackburne, warden, John Gatcliffe, Ch. Ethelston, C. Johnson, and John Clowes, fellows. Mr. Singleton was born in 1776, and was ordained in 1803 to the curacy of Middleton, having been for several years previously master of the Grammar school at Wharton in Cheshire. In 1813 he entered as a ten-year man at St. John's college, Cambridge, where in 1825 he took the degree of B.D. He died January 2nd, 1838, aged sixty-two. His successor, the Rev. William Robert Keeling B.A. of St. John's college, Cambridge, was nominated February 5th, 1838, by the Wardens and Fellows, and is the present incumbent.

The monuments which still remain are few in number, and possess no striking features of interest. They consist of six mural tablets all of recent date. They occupy the western extremity of the north aisle, and are inscribed with the names of Alsop, Hulton, Taylor, Scholes, and Bowker.

ALSOP. — Sacred to the memory of Richard Alsop, Esquire, of Litchford hall, who died January the 27th, 1821, aged 50 years. Also, Alice, his wife, who departed this life on the 27th of April, 1826, in the 48th year of her age. Also, Caroline Bradock, their infant daughter, who died Feb. 5, 1811, aged 8 months.

This inscription is surmounted by a shield bearing the arms of the family.

Sacred to the memory of a beloved sister, Helen Alsop of Litchford hall. She departed this life Sept. 13, 1830, aged 21 years. — This memorial of affection is erected by a sorrowing sister: "I was dumb, I opened not my mouth because 'Thou didst it.'" "Nevertheless, my soul, wait thou still upon God, for my hope is in Him."

A lozenge bearing arms, as before.

HULTON. — In memory of JOHN HULTON Esq. of the city of Dublin, who died 19th of April, 1752, aged 64 years. Also, The Rev. EDWARD HULTON A.M., who was minister of this chapel 46 years, and one of the domestic chaplains to the R. H. William, late Earl of Glencairn; died 16th April,

1768, aged 70 years. Also, JOHN HULTON Esq. of Blackley, who died 5th of April, 1814, aged 75 years. Also, EDWARD HULTON Esq., brother of the above J. Hulton, of Blackley, who died 13th April, 1813, aged 72 years. Also MARTHA HULTON, wife of the above Edward Hulton, who died 13th of Feb. 1821, aged 56 years. "The trumpet shall sound and the dead shall be raised." "Tempus fugit." — Filial piety has caused this tablet to be erected.

Over this inscription is a shield bearing a lion rampant differenced by a crescent, impaling a horse's head and neck coupéd. There are no tinctures. Crest: issuing from a ducal coronet, a hart's head proper. Motto: Sola virtus invicta.

TAYLOR. — This tablet is erected to the memory of Thomas Taylor Esq. of this township, who died Aug. 28, 1801, aged 57 years. And also of Margaret, his wife, who died May 2, 1826, aged 79 years. And also of Joshua Taylor, their son, who died Sept. 18, 1797, aged 18 years.

SCHOLES. — Resurgam. Sacred to the memory of JOSEPH SCHOLES Esq. of Salford, who died Sept. 11, 1829, in the 70th year of his age. Also, SARAH, his beloved wife, who departed this life April 16, 1822, aged 51 years. Also, George,^{*} their son, who died June 1, 1792, aged 9 months. ELIZABETH,[†] their daughter, who died Feb. 20, 1808, aged 2 years. EDWARD, their son, who died April 16th, 1811, aged 15 years. ROBERT, their son, who died September 19, 1811, aged 18 years. Also, EDWARD, the infant son of Joseph and Phoebe Scholes, the surviving son of the above-named Joseph and Sarah Scholes, who died Dec. 23, 1821, aged 14 weeks. GEORGE FREDERICK, their son, who died Sept. 8, 1827, aged 18 weeks. JOSEPH, their son, who died June 8, 1828, in the 6th year of his age. JOSEPH, their son, who died Jan. 14, 1833, aged 5 months. JOSEPH, their son, who died Aug. 22, 1834, aged 10 weeks. Interred under pew No. 9.

[†] George Scholes of Blackley on Jan. 29, 1792 was robbed by his servant (Shaw) Oldham Annals, pt. XI, p. 194

^{*} On July 9, 1792 Old Elizabeth Scholes of Blackley Hall, widow ~~aged~~ aged 28 years was buried (at Oldham par. ch.?) (Shaw's Oldham Annals, part XI, p. 166)

Above the inscription is a shield bearing gu. on a chevron arg. between 3 escallop shells or, 3 mullets of the field. Crest: a demi-lion ramp. issuing from a mural coronet, holding between his paws an escallop shell.

BOWKER. — Sacred to the memory of **ROBERT BOWKER** of Bowker Bank, who died Sept. 26, 1797, aged 64 years. Of **SALLY**, his wife, who died May 29, 1825, aged 88 years. And of **ESTHER**, their daughter, who died June 16, 1796, aged 17 years. Also of **HENRY HILL BOWKER**, son of John and Eliza Bowker of Polefield in the parish of Prestwich, and grandson of the above, of Brazenose college, Oxford, whose early promise of future usefulness in life was cut short by death the 26 of Nov. 1838, in the 24th year of his age. And of **LUCY**, daughter of John and Eliza Bowker of Polefield, who died May 5, 1824, aged 6 months.

It is probable that in early times the duty was somewhat irregularly supplied, the income, if any, being so small as to offer but few inducements to an acceptance of the charge or to a permanent residence. The parties responsible for a due performance of the stated services were of course the Warden and Fellows of Manchester, who, as rectors of the parish and recipients of the tithes collected throughout the several chapel districts, were pledged to make provision for the spiritual wants of the people. Thus, in 1578, we find "injunctions and orders given to the Master or Warden by the Archbishop of York and the Queen's Commissioners about residence of the Warden and Fellows, and diligent and constant preaching every Sunday in the church of Manchester, or in one of the chapels of Stretford, Chorlton, Didsbury, Gorton, Denton, Newton, and Blackley."⁽¹⁾

In the year 1704 the value of the living was certified to be £27.. 10.. 8. The endowment is derived from the following sources:

1. The sum of £20 per annum, given by Jonathan Dawson of Manchester, being an annual rent-charge for ever upon an

⁽¹⁾ Hollingworth's *Mancuniensis*, p. 83.

estate in Salford called Ringspiggot hall, now belonging to the representatives of the late Duke of Bridgewater, and payable June 24th and December 25th in each year.

2. The third part of an estate situated in Moston Lane on the confines of Moston and Blackley, but in the latter township, granted and assigned in 1625 by Adam Chetham. In 1704 this produced 17s. 8d. In 1838 the annual income from this source had increased to £7.
3. The sum of £5 per annum, being the interest of £100 left by George Grimshaw of Manchester, who also in further endowment of the chapel left by will the reversion of a dwelling-house in Manchester worth £7 per annum. The date assigned to Grimshaw's bequest by a tablet in the church is 1713, but Dr. Wroe, writing in 1707, claims it for that year. This estate, situated at Hunt's Bank in Manchester, was sold in 1837 to the Improvement Commissioners of the town of Manchester, and the proceeds amounting to £475 invested in the purchase of stock by an order dated May 12th, 1837, the interest thereon being payable April 5th and October 5th. This produces an annual income of £15 .. 16 .. 2. The interest for ever on the £100 has of late years ceased.
4. The sum of 10s. per annum, being the interest of £10 left in 1721 by John Travis, to be paid yearly to the minister of Blackley chapel for a sermon on Christmas day.
5. The interest for ever of £20, at four and a half per cent., left in 1763 by the Rev. Edward Hulton M.A. to the minister of Blackley chapel for two sermons annually on Christmas day and Good Friday. Mr. Hulton left also by will the annual interest of £40, at four and a half per cent., towards the repair of the edifice and chapel yard.
6. The chapel-house or ancient parsonage, originally situate in the chapel yard and valued in 1704 at £1 per annum. In 1840 this house was removed and two cottages built at an expense of £270 without the fence of the chapel yard. These cottages produce a rental of £12.

7. The modern parsonage-house erected in 1838 by voluntary subscription, aided by a grant of £200 from Queen Anne's bounty. Site given by James Walker esquire of Sand Hutton in the county of York. Cost of erection £900.
8. Grant of £27 per annum, made by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners in 1842.
9. Interest on the several sums of £200, £200, and £400, being grants from the Commissioners of Queen Anne's bounty, made in the years 1800, 1812, and 1821 respectively.
10. Bequest of £3 per annum under the will of Mrs. Alice Alsop of Litchford hall. Will dated April 21st, 1826.

In 1834 the value of the living was returned at £140.

The value of the tithes collected in Blackley in the year 1650, and paid to the Warden and Fellows of Manchester as rectors of the parish, was estimated at £15. In 1701 the tithes of the township were leased to Mr. Robert Litchford for the annual sum of £20. In 1848 the annual rent-charge of the township payable to the Dean and Chapter in lieu of tithes was £203 .. 11 .. 3.

Extracts from the Registers of Blackley Chapel :

1656. Jan. 27. Bapt. at Blackley John Shacklock sone of Henery Shacklock of Moston.
1658. May 2. Bapt. at Blackley Anna Shacklock daughter of Henery Shacklock of Moston.
1659. June 2. Bapt. at Blackley Mary Cheetame daughter of M^r Edward Cheetame of Smedley.
1663. March 14. Buried at Blackley Margaret Hill, beinge buried at outeside of the chappell yarde.⁽¹⁾

(1) Probably an excommunicate person, and, as the custom then was, buried without religious service in unconsecrated ground. An entry of similar import is found in the parish registers of Hart, county Durham: "Ellen Thompson, fornicatrix, was buried of the people in y^e chaer at y^e entrance unto y^e yeate or stile of y^e churchyard, on y^e east thereof, Dec. 17, 1596." And again in the registers of another church (reference mislaid): "Edwardus Ward infans filius Edwardi cujus mater cum ferro inhumanissime eū interfecit eodemq. tempore et instrumento eod. seipsam vita spoliavit. Infans in Cemeterio 10 Maii est sepultus, mater vero quasi Christianā sepulturā indigna sepulta

1666. March 8. Bapt. at the house of John Pendleton of Blackley his two children Amaria Pendleton and Jonas Pendleton, being twains.
1668. June 22. Buried at Blackley Elizabeth Pyke daughter of M^r Thomas Pyke of Blackley.
1669. May 16. Geffrey Holcroft and Mary Shrigley were married in the chappell of Blackley by lycense, being Rogation Sunday.
1669. Aug. 29. Bapt. at Blackley Alis the daughter of M^r William Cheetham of Moston.
1669. Feb. 18. Anne the daughter of Robert Kenyon was baptised in the chappell of Blackley at y^e ffont, per me: Jo. Brereton.⁽¹⁾
1670. April 12. Bapt. Margaret daughter of M^r James Bowker of Blackley.
1674. June 28. Buried Francis Cladg the servent of M^r Oumferei Catems of Nuton.
1676. Aug. 21. Buried M^r Thomas Pyke minister.
1690. April 20. Buried Samuel Dickanson jun. son of M^r Samuel Dickanson.
1691. Oct 6. Buried M^r Samuel Dickanson sen. of Blackley.
1694. Dec. 1. Buried Jonathan son of M^r Jere. Barlow of Blackley.

fruit in agro." So strict indeed were our forefathers in their observance of this rule, that we learn from the registers of Weedon Beck, county Northampton, that William Radhouse the elder, dying excommunicate, was buried by "stealthe in the night time in y^e churchyard, y^e 29th day of January, 1615, whereupon y^e church was interdicted a fortnight."

(1) This entry marks the period at which presbyterian innovation was abandoned at Blackley, and the old forms in baptism resumed. The *Directory for Public Worship*, issued in 1644, had forbidden the administration of baptism in private places, and "in places where Fonts in the time of Popery were unfitly and superstitiously placed." In the registers of Hillingdon, county Middlesex, the following entry occurs: Baptisms — Elizabeth the daughter of William Pratt, Feb. 25, 1671-2: "The first that in eleven years was baptised with water at the font; the custom being in this place to baptise out of a bason after the presbyterian manner, which I could never get reformed till I had gotten a new clerk, John Brown, who presently did what I appointed to be done."

1696. July 18. Buried Sarah daughter of John Morton minister.
1696. July 23. Buried at Blackley M^{rs} Hanna Dikanson wife of M^r Sam^l Dickanson sen^r, and the fine paid for burying her in linnen. The informer was Adam Dawson. Witness my name: Adam Dawson inkeeper and chapellwarden for the p^rsent year 1696.⁽¹⁾
1697. Feb. 27. Bapt. Martha daughter of Hen. Tetlow of Shakklok Green.⁽²⁾
1698. June 5. W^{ll} Hayhurst of Preston gent. and M^{rs} Katharine Lever of Alkrington in p^rish of P^rstwich were married at Blakely chp^l y^e day afores^d by lycense, pr. me: Joh^m Morton curate.

(¹) By Act, 30 Charles II., c. 3, it is ordered, under a penalty of £5, that all persons to be interred shall be wrapped in a shroud composed of woollen material, and that in all cases a certificate of compliance with the Act be given to the minister officiating at the interment. The object of the Statute was to encourage the woollen manufactures of the kingdom, and to lessen the importation of linen. This Act, afterwards amended by 32 Charles II., c. 1, continued in operation until the year 1818, when it was repealed by 54 George III., c. 108. It is to this custom that Pope alludes in his Epistle on the Characters of Men, where it is made to furnish an apt illustration of the ruling passion strong in death:

“ ‘Odious! in *woollen*! ’twould a saint provoke,
(Were the last words that poor Narcissa spoke :)
‘No, let a charming *chintz* and *Brussels lace*
Wrap my cold limbs and shade my lifeless face;
One would not sure be frightful when one’s dead —
And, Betty, give this cheek a little red.’ ”

Dryden, too, in the prologue to his tragedy of *Edipus*, first published in 1679, the year in which the Burial in Woollen Statute was enacted, refers to it in the following lines:

“ If, notwithstanding all that we can say,
You needs will have your pen’orths of the play,
And come resolved to damn because you pay,
Record it, in memorial of the fact,
The first play buried since the Woollen Act.”

(²) Shakklook Green in Moston, now corrupted into Shackliffe Green or Shackerley Green, derives its name from the Shacklocks, a family of note residing in Moston in the reign of Henry VIII.

1698. June 5. M^r Joh. Shelmerdine of Rusholm in p^rish of Manchester and M^{rs} Mary Stockeley of Morley in p^rish of Wilmsley (Wilmslow) were marryed y^e day aboves^d at Blackley chp^l by lycense, per me: Joh^m Morton curate ibid.
1699. April 7. A brief for y^e ffrench Protestants nere Vaudois, inhabitants of y^e valley and on this syde y^e river Clusone: Rec'd and gathered y^e sum of three shill. nyne penc hapeny, and p^d to M^r John Lighboun chrchwarden at Manchester. Vid. acq^l.
1700. May 7. W^{ll} Buckley of p^rish of Gawsworth and Eliz. Lightboun of Manchester, were marryed at Blackley chapell by M^r Hynde by lycense.
1700. May 15. Buried at Birch chapel Phœbe daughter of M^r Worsley, by Jo. Morton.
1700. May 19. Bapt. Martha y^e daughter of Ralph Worsley and Elizabeth his wife at Rusham Green.
1701. April 10. Bapt. Thomas the son of M^r Henry Dickanson of Blackley.
1701. April 26. Bapt. Elizab. daughter of John Shelmerdine gent. of Rusham Green.
1701. Nov. 3. Bapt. Anne y^e daughter of Hen. Stanley esquire, at Adam Oldham's at Land's End.
1701. Jan. 17. Buried Ellen y^e wife of Robert Litchford.
1701. Feb. 16. Married M^r Samuel Banks of Warrington and Mary Antrobus of Manchester by lycense.
1702. May 18. Buried at Meeting-place (Unitarian chapel) in Blackley W^{ll} Rollinson of Blackley.
1702. July 19. Bapt. John son of Charles Worsley at Withington nere Didsbury.
1702. Aug. 4. Bapt. James son of Joshua Burdsill at Wood End by Barn-preacher Heawood.
1703. Feb. 29. Buried John Pendleton of Cromshall who was killed with his horse.
1704. April 20. Bapt. Samuel son of M^r Henry Dickanson of Blackley.

1704. Sept. 22. Buried at Blackley Samuell Morton son of parson Morton late minister of Blackley.
1705. Feb. 4. Buried at Blackley Mary Shacklock of Moston.
1706. July 26. Buried M^{rs} Elizabeth Dickenson late wife of M^r Henry Dickenson of Blackley.
1707. May 9. Buried at Blackley John Morton late parson of Blackley chappill.
1707. May 20. Buried Ann Morton daughter of parson Morton late of Blackley.
1707. June 4. Buried Elizabeth Morton daughter of parson Morton late of Blackley.
1709. Aug. 14. Bapt. John son of M^r Henry Dickenson of Blackley gent.
1709. Aug. 16. John Rowbotham of Bolton and Mary Lever of Bolton, married by lycense by Nath^l Band minister.
1709. Oct. 3. Buried Susau fourth wife of Edward Page of Blackley.
1709. March 11. Buried Mary the wife of M^r Robert Litchford of Blackley.
1710. Oct. 6. Bapt. Henry son of Henry Dickenson of Blackley gent.
1710. Jan. 19. Buried at Blackley chappill M^r Robert Litchford of Blackley.
- 1711 - 12. Jan. 10. Bapt. Mary daughter of M^r Henry Dickenson of Blackley.
- 1711 - 12. March 18. Buried Mary the daughter of M^r Henry Dickenson of Blackley.
1712. April 6. Buried Henry son of M^r Henry Dickenson of Blackley.
1713. June 12. Buried James son of great James Taylor of Blackley.
1714. Sept. 19. Bapt. Alice daughter of M^r John Moss of Manchester.
1716. Oct. 21. Bapt. James son of M^r John Moss of Manchester.

1717. March 28. Bapt. Robert son of M^r Henry Dickenson of Blackley.
1718. July 24. Buried M^r Henry Dickenson of Blackley.
1722. Aug. 3. Buried M^{rs} Morton of Manchester.
1726. Dec. 9. Buried Mary daughter of the late Rev. M^r Morton.
1732. Nov. 12. Bapt. John son of John Cooper, grandchild of John Cooper the less.
1733. Oct. 7. Buried M^r Daniel Moreton from London.
1733. Nov. 26. Bapt. Thomas son of Francis Reynolds Esq. of Strangeways.
- 1729-1733. [Between these years occur several entries in the registers of burial, to each of which are appended the words "starved by Howarth," added probably by way of retaliation, and commemorative of some hard-hearted public officer.]
1748. March 5. Bapt. Sarah daughter of John Hawarth of Manchester gent. [Married July 27, 1775, the Hon. Edw. Perceval, and died in 1808.⁽¹⁾]
1749. Nov. 1. Bapt. Mary daughter of Thomas Pleasance, waiting man ubi nescio.
1752. Aug. 19. Bapt. Sarah daughter of John Hawarth of Manchester gent.
1754. Aug. 3. Bapt. Mary daughter of John Hawarth of Manchester gent.
1755. May 20. Buried Anne wife of Thomas Diggles Esq. of Blackley.
1761. Aug. 25. Buried Thomas son of John Fletcher, serving man at Blackley hall.
1763. Feb. 5. Mem. The fourteen foregoing burials were all

(¹) This interpolated entry within brackets, added at some period subsequent to the time of the original insertion of baptism, is incorrect. Mr. Perceval married a second daughter of Mr. Haworth of the same name, baptised August 9th 1752. Sarah, the eldest daughter, baptised March 5th 1748, died April 1st 1750, and was buried at the Collegiate church, Manchester.

interred without the service of the Church being read, during the disputes about the right of nomination to this chapel.

1763. April 18. Buried the Rev. Edward Hulton minister at Blackley.

1772. May 17. Bapt. Mary daughter of Rev. Peter Haddon curate of Blackley.

1773. Aug. 9. Buried Thomas Diggles Esq. of Booth hall, aged 85.

1773. Oct. 31. Bapt. Elizabeth daughter of Rev. Peter Haddon curate of Blackley.

1775. Feb. 23. Buried Elizabeth wife of Rev. Peter Haddon curate of Blackley.

1781. Dec. 24. Buried John Diggles Esq. of Booth hall in Blackley.

1782. March 30. Buried Alice daughter of Samuel Taylor of Moston gent.

The registers of the chapel commence in the year 1655.

BAPTISMS AND BURIALS.

Year	No. of Baptisms	No. of Burials	Year	No. of Baptisms	No. of Burials	Year	No. of Baptisms	No. of Burials
1655...	imper- fect	imper- fect	1669...	28...	18	1683...	wanting.	
1656...	28...	imper- fect	1670...	16...	10	1684...	wanting.	
1657...	imper- fect	19	1671...	15...	23	1685...	wanting.	
1658...	want- ing	16	1672...	17...	23	1686...	wanting.	
1659...	9...	13	1673...	20...	20	1687..	wanting.	
1660...	11...	8	1674...	imper- fect	29	1688...	imper- fect	want- ing.
1661...	12...	5	1675...	13...	26	1689...	16...	imper- fect
1662...	imper- fect	3	1676...	17 ..	23	1690..	26...	13
1663...	imper- fect	6	1677...	15 ..	18	1691...	imper- fect	9
1664...	10...	16	1678...	imper- fect	imper- fect	1692...	18...	18
1665...	13...	8	1679...	wanting.		1693...	imper- fect	24
1666...	20...	12	1680...	wanting.		1694..	want- ing	13
1667...	23...	15	1681...	wanting.		1695...	29...	14
1668...	13...	11	1682...	wanting.		1696...	24...	18

Year	No. of Baptisms	No. of Burials	Year	No. of Baptisms	No. of Burials	Year	No. of Baptisms	No. of Burials
1697...	30...	23	1731...	34...	12	1765...	41...	29
1698...	33...	25	1732...	30...	22	1766...	48...	24
1699...	32...	18	1733...	42...	20	1767...	58...	24
1700...	28...	24	1734...	28...	10	1768...	52...	25
1701...	28...	13	1735...	31...	20	1769...	63...	36
1702...	35...	18	1736...	33...	21	1770...	58...	36
1703...	22...	10	1737...	25...	9	1771...	73...	48
1704...	14...	21	1738...	33...	10	1772...	70...	36
1705...	12...	14	1739...	41...	18	1773...	70...	38
1706...	18...	16	1740...	23...	14	1774...	62...	49
1707...	17...	22	1741...	27...	13	1775...	66...	46
1708...	9...	16	1742...	24...	16	1776...	70...	58
1709...	12...	22	1743...	58...	19	1777...	70...	45
1710...	14...	14	1744...	28...	24	1778...	81...	46
1711...	18...	25	1745...	35...	15	1779...	43...	40
1712...	20...	19	1746...	40...	27	1780...	69...	36
1713...	12...	18	1747...	45...	23	1781...	67...	53
1714...	want- ing...	10	1748...	52...	18	1782...	60...	70
1715...	want- ing...	18	1749...	37...	12	1783...	67...	...
1716...	14...	imper- fect	1750...	47...	22	1784...	75...	43
1717...	19...	imper- fect	1751...	32...	11	1785...	74...	52
1718...	15...	11	1752...	40...	14	1786...	86...	55
1719...	17...	14	1753...	31...	27	1787...	86...	60
1720...	21...	15	1754...	46...	18	1788...	90...	69
1721...	25...	22	1755...	44...	28	1789...	75...	65
1722...	29...	26	1756...	39...	22	1790...	89...	67
1723...	29...	16	1757...	35...	20	1791...	98...	70
1724...	40...	22	1758...	32...	19	1792...	109...	71
1725...	29...	14	1759...	31...	28	1793...	99...	122
1726...	29...	26	1760...	33...	19	1794...	73...	84
1727...	36...	27	1761...	36...	18	1795...	80...	96
1728...	25...	38	1762...	40...	20	1796...	87...	75
1729...	23...	47	1763...	imper- fect...	22	1797...	86...	81
1730...	25...	38	1764...	39...	30	1798...	86...	103

Year	No. of Baptisms	No. of Burials	Year	No. of Baptisms	No. of Burials	Year	No. of Baptisms	No. of Burials
1799...	98...	69	1818...	104...	112	1836...	155...	153
1800...	83...	85	1819...	105..	107	1837...	132..	160
1801...	73...	94	1820...	95...	109	1838...	102...	123
1802...	102...	104	1821...	101...	104	1839 ..	imper. 52	109
1803...	96...	94	1822...	153...	122	1840...	103...	74
1804...	102...	70	1823...	183...	145	1841...	128...	79
1805...	113...	67	1824...	153...	114	1842...	128 ..	75
1806...	104...	96	1825..	110...	109	1843...	137...	80
1807...	88...	81	1826...	144...	139	1844...	108...	77
1808...	118...	71	1827...	118...	140	1845...	160...	91
1809...	97...	108	1828...	108...	148	1846...	85..	105
1810...	103...	104	1829...	126...	122	1847...	71...	130
1811...	90...	75	1830...	113...	97	1848...	74...	112
1812...	113...	81	1831...	170...	123	1849...	91...	112
1813...	105...	87	1832...	151...	135	1850...	74...	106
1814...	129 ..	116	1833...	142...	131	1851...	114...	107
1815...	111...	79	1834...	193...	194	1852...	92...	89
1816...	87...	104	1835...	165...	165	1853...	92...	107
1817...	80...	87						

The first entry of a marriage occurs in 1669, from which time until the year 1752, when a prohibitory Act was passed (26 George II. c. 33), limiting the freedom of marriage, we find not more than 111 solemnized at Blackley. In the year 1753 marriages finally ceased at Blackley chapel.

MARRIAGES.

Year	No. of Marr.	Year	No. of Marr.	Year	No. of Marr.	Year	No. of Marr.
1669 ...	6	1696 ...	8	1704 ...	1	1725 ...	1
1670 ...	1	1697 ...	3	1705 ...	1	1726 ...	1
1671 ...	1	1699 ...	4	1709 ...	2	1728 ...	3
1675 ...	2	1700 ...	7	1718 ...	2	1730 ...	1
1694 ...	1	1701 ...	15	1721 ...	1	1731 ...	2
1695 ..	1	1703 ...	3	1722 ...	4	1732 ...	1

Year	No. of Marr.	Year	No. of Marr.	Year	No. of Marr.	Year	No. of Marr.
1734 ...	3	1739 ...	4	1743 ...	1	1748 ...	3
1736 ...	1	1740 ...	3	1744 ...	2	1750 ...	4
1737 ...	2	1741 ...	3	1746 ...	4	1751 ...	1
1738 ...	1	1742 ...	3	1747 ...	3	1752 ...	1

The first place of worship erected in Blackley by separatists from the communion of the church, was the building now occupied by the Unitarians. This chapel, like most others of the same denomination in Lancashire, was originally built and endowed for the promulgation of doctrines accordant with those of the Church, but enforced by a Presbyterian form of government. How it has failed to fulfil the pious intentions of its founders does not appear, but such has been the almost universal declension of all English Presbyterian congregations — which remain so but in name. In the year 1824, out of thirty-nine Unitarian chapels then existing in Lancashire, thirty-two were built and endowed by Presbyterians.⁽¹⁾ This chapel was erected in the year 1697, which date is carved on a block of wood now built into a wall at the rear of the premises; and tradition affirms that the foundation was laid by Joshua Taylor of Alkington Green, then only sixteen years of age — the stone over whose grave is the first that was laid in the chapel yard: Taylor died September 17th, 1756.

The site was given by William Rowlinson, an inhabitant of Blackley and one of the first projectors of the chapel. By Indenture, made July 19th, 1697, between William Rowlinson of Blackley in the county of Lancaster, yeoman, on the one part, and Thomas Travis of Blackley aforesaid, chapman, George Travis of the same place, chapman, Richard Ogden of the same place, yeoman, and Ralph Wardleworth of the same place, yeoman, on the other part, It is witnessed that the said William Rowlinson, for divers good causes and considerations him thereunto moving, does demise and grant to the aforesaid four trustees, their heirs, executors, and administrators all that plot and parcel of land

(1) *Manchester Socinian Controversy*, preface, p. xliv.

lying and being in Blackley aforesaid, near the lower end of a certain close there called The Yarn Croft, now in the possession or occupation of him the said William Rowlinson, whereupon the above-named trustees by the assistance of others, the inhabitants of Blackley, have already by and with the advice and consent of the said William Rowlinson erected, reared, and set up a structure or building for a meeting-house for nonconformists or dissenting ministers, now allowed, to preach in, for the use of the township of Blackley aforesaid, together with a yard lying on the south side thereof according as the same is now fenced out, with all and singular ways, liberties, easements, profits, and advantages to the same belonging (except and always reserved out of the present demise unto the said William Rowlinson, his executors, &c., the pasture or herbage of the said yard for and during the term herein granted), to have and to hold the said structure or meeting-house for the term of nine hundred and ninety-nine years, yielding and paying therefor yearly the rent of two pence upon the feast-day of the Nativity of our Lord God, if the same be demanded. And further, it is agreed by and between the parties aforesaid, that if at any time hereafter during the term hereby granted there shall happen any alteration or change of government whereby the said ministers shall be restrained of their liberty and free exercise of their worship, that then in such a case the building shall be converted to the use of a school for the education of children, and to and for no other use, intent, and purpose whatsoever; and if the said trustees, their heirs, executors, or assigns shall and do at any time hereafter during the said term grant, assign, sell, alien, or convert the said building, &c., to any other use or purpose than what is before herein limited and expressed, that then it shall be lawful for the said William Rowlinson, his heirs, and assigns to re-enter into the said premises and to repossess and enjoy the same, and that then this grant shall become void. — Signed: Thomas Travis, George Travis, Richard Ogden, Ralph Wardleworth. Witnesses: Adam Dawson, Thomas Peel, Thomas Anderson.

The above Indenture is endorsed "Lease of Blackley chapel for 999 years."

It is a building of no pretension, its limits not exceeding those of an ordinary-sized school-room, which it much resembles. Its extreme length is 44 feet 6 inches, and its width 19 feet 9 inches. The interior is fitted up with pews, seventeen in number, affording accommodation for about one hundred and thirty persons; but the congregation rarely exceeds thirty, of whom the greater proportion is from a distance. The exterior, in itself unattractive, is rendered picturesque by a thick covering of ivy, which conceals its stuccoed walls. Attached to the south wall is a sun-dial with the following inscription :

My change is sure, it may be soon,
Each hastening minute leads me on ;
The awful summons draweth nigh,
And every day I live I die !

The Act of Toleration, passed in the year 1688, no doubt opened the way for the erection of this chapel; but before this a congregation had assembled, worshipping with such secrecy as the stringent laws enacted against Dissenters at that time rendered needful, a Mrs. Travis receiving the ministers at her own house. Over this congregation the Rev. Thomas Pyke presided, officiating amongst them as early as 1668, (four years before Charles II. issued his Indulgence.) Mr. Pyke had at one time been minister of Walmsley chapel in the parish of Bolton, and was subsequently rector of Radcliffe, from which living he was ejected for his nonconformity at the passing of the Uniformity Act in 1662. He died in 1676, aged about fifty-four years, and was interred within the precincts of Blackley Episcopal chapel on the 21st day of August, the Rev. Mr. Lawton, minister of Newton Heath, preaching his funeral sermon, from John v., 28, 29. When his end drew near, he told those around him that he found the best preparations of the best men were little enough when they came to die. He left behind him several volumes of sermons, fairly transcribed, for the use of his

surviving children.⁽¹⁾ One of his sons, John, married the daughter of the Rev. Robert Bath, the ejected minister of Rochdale. This son appears to have fallen into profligate habits, and came to poverty. Of him, under the date December 18th, 1680, Newcome thus writes ("Autobiography," vol. ii. p. 234): "Went to visit Jo: Pyke, who was sick. It grieved me to the heart to see his wife so ragged, the daughter of good Mr. Bath, and he the son of honest Mr. Pyke! Good Lord, what sin brings upon poor wretches, even in this world!"⁽²⁾

By his Will dated May 4th, 1671, Thomas Pyke, minister of the Gospel, now dwelling in Blackley in the parish of Manchester and county of Lancaster, first and principally commits and commends his soul into the hands of Almighty God his Creator and Maker, trusting that through the tender mercies of his Heavenly Father, and the meritorious death and passion of Jesus Christ, his dear, precious, and only Saviour and Redeemer, he shall be made partaker of the inheritance of the saints in light, and receive the end of his faith, even the salvation of his soul. He directs his body to be buried at the discretion of his executrix. And for that worldly estate it hath pleased God of His goodness to bestow on him, who is less than the least of His mercies, his will and mind is, and he does hereby give all those two messuages or tenements, with all the land thereto appertaining, lying and being in Frodsham in the county of Chester, which he purchased of his cousin, Samuel Clarke, of Coundon in the county of Warwick, gentleman, unto Mary Pyke, his beloved wife, for the term of her natural life; and that after her decease, his son, Thomas Pyke, shall have one of the messuages commonly known by the name of Moore's house, with the land thereto appertaining, to have and to hold to himself, his heirs and assigns, for ever; and the other messuage, land, and appurtenances, commonly known by the name of Coddington's house in Frodsham aforesaid, he gives unto his son, John Pyke,

⁽¹⁾ Calamy's *Abridgment*, vol. ii. p. 398.

⁽²⁾ Pike Fold, situated near to Miss Alsop's school, is still pointed out as Mr. Pyke's former residence in Blackley.

his heirs and assigns, for ever. And further his will is, that his study of books shall be sold, and that out of the money that shall be raised by the sale of them, twenty pounds shall be paid unto his two daughters, Mary and Esther Pyke, unto each of them ten pounds. The residue of the proceeds of the sale of his books, with all his goods and chattels, (his debts and funeral expenses first fully discharged,) he gives unto the aforesaid Mary Pyke, his dear and loving wife, trusting that the Lord will supply all her wants, and make provision for her and his loving children. He appoints his wife sole executrix. Witnesses: Thomas Tetlaw, John Travis. Proved at Chester, September 13th, 1676.

At his decease his goods and chattels were valued at £76 .. 7 .. 6. Imp. in cattle, £7 .. 10. It. in silver plate, fifteen shillings. It. one watch, four shillings. It. in books, £20. It. in linnens, £5. It. in apparel, £10. It. in moneys in the house, £3. It. in hus-tlement,⁽¹⁾ one shilling.

In 1682 (June 30th), Oliver Heywood preached here "to a full company, at widow Travers's house."

In Matthew Henry's Diary, June 17th, 1700, there is an account of an ordination at Macclesfield, in which he himself took part, one of the ordained ministers being "Mr. Brooks of Blakely." Whether this Mr. Brooks was only a native of Blackley, or whether he officiated after or at the time of his ordination, does not appear.

In 1702 Mr John Heywood was minister. He was ordained at Warrington, June 16th, 1702. He died in January, 1781, and was buried in the chapel. It was during Mr. Heywood's residence at Blackley that the riotous proceedings attendant upon the trial of the noted Dr. Sacheverell agitated the country. On the 20th of June, 1715, a lawless mob visited Blackley, and destroyed the chapel there, passing onwards the day after to Greenacres and Monton (near Eccles), at both of which places the chapels shared a like fate. From the congregational statistics of the Rev. Josiah Thompson,

(¹) Hustlement, an obsolete word, signifying "Odds and Ends." Halliwell's *Dictionary of Archaic and Provincial Words*.

it appears that Mr. Heywood's hearers at Blackley numbered two hundred.⁽¹⁾

Between the years 1731 and 1755, the minister was the Rev. Thomas Valentine, who had removed to this place from Kingsley in Cheshire. He was for some years a member of the Cheshire classis, by which he was ordained at Knutsford, May 5th, 1719. The amount subscribed by the congregation for the support of Mr. Valentine fell short of his moderate wants, being little more than £25 per annum, and the close of his life was marked by poverty. He died May 10th, 1755, and was buried in the chapel.

For the next two years (1755-1757), the resident minister was the Rev. John Helme of Holcomb. A minister of this name had been settled at Penruddock in Cumberland (1741-1750), whence he removed to Lancaster. He was for many years minister of Walmsley, and was noted as a witty opponent of the Methodists. He was drowned in attempting to cross a ford near Bolton, in the year 1760.

The next minister was the Rev. James Benn, who resided at Blackley from the year 1757 to 1766. He was the grandson of Richard Harrison, son of Cuthbert Harrison the ejected minister of Singleton; and was educated for the ministry at the academy of Dr. Rotherham of Kendal, entering about 1741. He settled first at Forton in the Fylde, whence he removed to Swaledale in Yorkshire; having previously married a daughter of Mr. Gardner, his predecessor there. He died in the month of April, 1782.

In April, 1766, Mr. Philip Taylor, for many years Presbyterian minister at Dublin, preached his first sermon at Blackley. In this year also, the Rev. Thomas Gwatkin, a young non-conforming clergyman, educated at Oxford, commenced here a short ministry. Afterwards he was led to conform. He went to America, and on his return obtained a living in Herefordshire.

Mr. Gwatkin's successor was the Rev. John Pope, who was born in 1745 and educated at a Dissenting academy in the city of

⁽¹⁾ Mr. Thompson's MS. Collections deposited in Williams' Library, Red Cross Street, London.

Exeter, conducted by Mr. Towgood and others. He was a good classical scholar and an able writer. When only twenty-one years of age he received his first appointment as minister of Blackley chapel, which he held many years in conjunction with the small endowed school at Stand in Pilkington. In 1791 he quitted Blackley on being elected to the chair of Classics and Belles Lettres in the New college at Hackney, where he succeeded Gilbert Wakefield, but returned to his old duties at Blackley in 1793, remaining there until his death. He died October 28th, 1802, in the 58th year of his age, and was buried in a vault within the chapel walls. A tablet has been erected to his memory, bearing an inscription from the pen of his pupil, the Rev. Thomas Broadhurst, (a native of Blackley, and many years at Bath.¹) The following is a list of his publications:

1. "Religious Improvement of Awful Events" (4to): a Sermon preached at Blackley, September 21st, 1777, occasioned by a shock of an earthquake the preceding Lord's day. London, 1777.

(¹) In memory of the
Rev. John Pope,
who died Oct. 28, 1802,
in the 58 year of his age.
He was a man of considerable
learning and ingenuity, and
was minister of this chapel
during a period of 35 years.
For his truly benevolent heart
he was greatly esteemed
and beloved.
His affectionate flock in gra-
titude for his services, have
erected this stone as an humble
tribute to his memory.

There are also two other mural tablets inscribed respectively with the names of John Johnson of Broughton, a former trustee, who died February 3rd, 1836; and Thomas Johnson of Smedley, who died April 3rd, 1838. This latter was also a trustee, and presented an organ to the chapel and fenced in the chapel-yard at his own cost.

¹ On Sept. 14. - see *Aston's Annals of Manchester*, p. 104. See also *Manchester Guardian*
Local Notes & Queries N° 88, Sep. 27, 1875; N° 90, Oct. 18, 1875

2. "Letter to the Rev. Mr. Nisbett on the Miraculous Conception (8vo), and the Testimonies of Ignatius and Justin Martyr." London, 1792.
3. "Divine Worship, founded in Nature and supported by Scripture authority," in answer to Gilbert Wakefield (8vo). London, 1792.
4. "Two Sermons preached to a Congregation of Protestant Dissenters at Blackley in the county of Lancaster. (1) Shibboleth, a Discourse on Bigotry; (2) St. Paul's Farewell to the Corinthians." London, 1792. — These sermons appear to have been preached the Sunday following the riots at Birmingham, to which allusion is made. The second is a farewell sermon to the flock at Blackley, from 2 Cor. xiii. 11.

Mr. Wakefield indulged in harsh censures of Mr. Pope, both as his successor at Hackney, as an opponent on the subject of public worship, and a critic on his classical publications.

Mr. Pope had prepared a course of remarks on the three Greek tragedians, which, had he received encouragement, he would have laid before the public in an edition of their works, including a collation of MSS. and a collection of notes. There is no evidence of his having completed his design.

During Mr. Pope's residence at Hackney, the minister at Blackley was the Rev. Thomas Broadhurst, his former pupil. His duties terminated on the return of Mr. Pope in 1793. From Blackley he removed to Taunton, thence to Halifax, and finally to Bath, where he died at the close of the year 1851.

The Rev. William Harrison, the present minister, succeeded Mr. Pope in January, 1802. He is son of the Rev. Ralph Harrison, formerly tutor of the Presbyterian academy in Manchester, and one of the ministers of Cross Street chapel.

The chapel is endowed with various small bequests, of which the following testamentary abstracts supply the particulars. It is probable, however, that the list here given admits of further extension :

By Will bearing date May 9th, 1702, William Rowlinson of Blackley in the parish of Manchester, yeoman, leaves his lands in Blackley to his sister Thamar Rowlinson, subject to the following charge and limitation; that therefrom shall "issue and be payable the annual sume of forty shillings for the onely use of such preacher or minister as shall preach or officiate for the time being at the new erected chappell or meeting-house in Blackley aforesaid neare adjoyneing unto my said dwelling-house; and the same to be yearly paid as followeth, viz., att and upon every the 24 day of June the sume of ten shillings; every 29 day of September ten shillings; every 25 day of December ten shillings; every 25 of March ten shillings; — the first payment thereof to commence and bee made att and upon any of the said dayes or times which shall first happen next after my decease, and soe be continued dureing and soe long as the said chappell or meeting-house shall bee made use of by dissenters comonly called Presbiterians in the same manner as now is and hath beene since the building thereof." The testator further directs that should the building cease to be used as a "preaching-house" then the same sum to be devoted to the encouragement of learning, provided always that the schoolmaster so elected be admitted and approved by the major part of the chief inhabitants within Blackley; and in default of both minister and schoolmaster, that then the said yearly charge upon the lands be utterly extinct.

Another benefactor to this chapel was Richard Ogden of Blackley, yeoman, who by Will dated March 9th, 1702 (proved at Chester March 28rd, 1702²), bequeaths to his executors the sum of £40 on trust, to be raised out of his personal estate; the same to be put out to interest for the benefit and use of a minister or schoolmaster of the new chapel in Blackley, and the yearly profit and interest accruing thereupon to be paid to the minister or schoolmaster thereof and their successors for ever, if the said new chapel continue to either of the said uses, but no longer. He names as his executors "Mr. Hewood, minister of the new chappell in Blackley," and John Buerdsell.

A further portion of the endowment is under the Will of James

Buersdell of Blackley, yeoman. By Will dated June 22nd, 1762 (proved at Chester October 21st, 1775), he gives and bequeaths unto his cousin, Samuel Taylor of Alkrington Green, the sum of £20 upon trust, that they the said Samuel Taylor the younger and Sarah Taylor and the survivor of them, his executors or administrators shall and do in his or their own name, or in the names of him or themselves, and of such other person or persons as then they shall think fit from time to time, put and place out at interest the said sum of £20 upon such security or securities as they shall think fit, and shall and do apply and dispose of all the yearly interest and produce thereof as the same shall from time to time arise and be received, unto and for the use and benefit of such Protestant Presbyterian minister of the Gospel dissenting from the Church of England as for the time being shall be minister of the society or congregation of such Protestant dissenters who shall continue to meet or assemble together for religious worship at or in their present chapel or place of religious worship in Blackley aforesaid, commonly called Blackley new chapel; provided always, and his will and mind is, and he does hereby expressly declare and direct that in case at any time hereafter the said society or congregation shall be dissolved and broken up, or that the laws and statutes of this realm shall disallow and prohibit the same society or congregation from meeting together for religious worship as Protestant dissenters are now by law tolerated to do, then and in either of the said cases and when and so soon as either of them shall happen, the said trustees for the time being shall and do pay, apply, and dispose that sum of £20 to and for such other pious and charitable use as they shall think fit. He gives also and bequeaths to the Rev. Mr. James Baron £3. He names as his executors Samuel Taylor, Nathaniel Taylor, and Esther Taylor.

There is also a further bequest of £120, under the Will of Thomas Johnson of Smedley, a trustee of the chapel; the interest thereof to be applied towards the support of the minister.

In the year 1762, the trustees of the chapel had in hand the sum of £310, trust money, viz.: £100 left under the Will of Nicholas

Jackson of the city of London, brewer ; a like sum given by divers charitable and well-disposed persons in Manchester and its neighbourhood ; £70 raised by the sale of a chief rent of forty shillings, heretofore given and granted by William Rowlinson of Blackley ; and £40 left under the will of Richard Ogden of Blackley. It was resolved to invest these several sums in such manner as that the interest should be applied "for the use and benefit, and for the better maintenance, support, and encouragement and augmentation of the allowance, salary, and stipend of such Protestant Presbyterian minister of the Gospel, dissenting from the Church of England, as for the time being shall stately officiate in the chapel aforesaid." In pursuance of this determination the trustees purchased in 1769, from James Holt of Shuttleworth in the parish of Bury, two hundred and forty square yards of land situate in Cheetham in the parish of Manchester, and known as The Peel Meadow, together with three cottages erected thereon ; the amount of purchase-money was one hundred guineas. The premises were subject to an annual chief-rent of fifteen shillings, payable to James Heywood of the city of London, esquire. By Indenture dated June 17th, 1830, the land was leased to Mr. Thomas Fray for a term of ninety-nine years at an annual rent of twenty-five guineas. Mr. Fray pulled down the cottages, and has erected a more commodious dwelling-house on the site. In 1775 a further sum of one hundred guineas, from the above-mentioned fund, was expended in the enlargement of the chapel-yard and the erection of two cottage-houses therein. The land thus added was part of an adjacent field known as The Chapel Meadow, the property of John Haworth esquire. It was in extent one hundred and fifty square yards, and was charged with the annual payment of twelve shillings chief-rent, which is now paid to the Earl of Wilton.

The earliest bequest for educational purposes in the township was made in the year 1710 by Robert Litchford.

By his Will, bearing date December 26th, 1710, an abstract of which has been already given, he devised a messuage and tene-

ment with the appurtenances, called Cooper's Tenement, situate in Blackley, to Litchford Flitcroft and his heirs, chargeable with an annuity or yearly rent of £5, clear of all deductions, issuing out of the said premises and payable yearly at Martinmas to certain trustees upon trust to employ the same to the use and benefit of such a schoolmaster inhabiting and teaching in Blackley as by them or the major part of them should from time to time be elected.

New trustees have been appointed from time to time by Deed, without any assignment of the rent of £5; but by Indenture bearing date December 3rd, 1781, Abraham Taylor, the cousin and heir-at-law of James Buerdsell then deceased, who was the only son and heir-at-law of John Buerdsell the younger, the surviving trustee nominated in the will of the said Robert Litchford, to the intent and purpose that the said trust might be perpetuated and the said annuity from time to time employed according to the directions of the said will, granted, bargained, and sold the said annuity or clear yearly rent of £5, issuing out of the said tenement called Cooper's Tenement, to George Johnson, John Hulton, Thomas Braddock, Thomas Bayley, James Travis, Joseph Lyon, Joseph Johnson, Samuel Taylor, Thomas Travis the younger, William Jackson, and Edward Hyde, all of Blackley, upon the trusts mentioned in the said will.

In 1826 the yearly sum of £5 was paid by Mrs. Alsop, the owner of a small farm in the township called Cooper's, to James Hall the chapel clerk, who kept a school upon his own premises, and was appointed by the trustees to receive this payment. No children are taught free on account of this benefaction. Formerly, the appointment of schoolmaster on the Litchford foundation was regarded as of sufficient importance to justify the inhabitants in submitting their nominee to the Bishop of the diocese for a license to hold the office. Thus, in the year 1775, "the major part of the freeholders and other principal inhabitants of Blackley" submit to the Bishop of Chester for license Nicholas Wallworth to be schoolmaster in place of Jacob Radcliffe deceased; and again, December 11th, 1782, John Clough.

Meanwhile, the population of the township increasing, and Mr. Litchford's solitary bequest so little answering the benevolent intentions of the testator, an effort was made towards the close of the century to supply the defect, and a school-house was built by the voluntary contributions of the inhabitants.

By Indenture of bargain and sale, bearing date October 14th, 1793, enrolled in the Court of Chancery January 4th, 1794, between the Hon. Edward Perceval on the one part, the Rev. John Griffith clerk, Abraham Henry Borel, James Travis the elder, Thomas Scholes, Josiah Rider, James Travis the younger, Thomas Travis the younger, and seven others since deceased, reciting that several charitable persons had contributed for the purposes of erecting a school-house in the township of Blackley, — the said Edward Perceval, for promoting so laudable a design, conveyed to the said John Griffith and others, and their heirs, a plot of land in Blackley, containing in the whole 677 square yards, bounded on two sides thereof by the road to Crumpsall and the road to Blackley mill, upon trust, that they should erect thereon a school-house and appropriate the remainder for a yard or other convenience for the use of the said school, and at their discretion build a house for the residence of the master; and that they should from time to time appoint an able and fit person to enjoy the said premises, and to teach children in reading, writing, and arithmetic for such payment as was usual at other public schools in the parish of Manchester, with power in case of neglect, intemperance, or irregularity on the part of the master, to remove him after three months' notice; and upon further trust, that when the number of trustees should be reduced to the number of five or less, the survivors should convey the premises to the use of themselves and so many more substantial and discreet persons residing in the chapelry of Blackley as should make up the number fifteen or more, upon the like trusts.

A school was erected on the premises in 1794 containing two rooms, the lower of which was used as a day school by a master appointed by the trustees. The building was also used as a Sun-

day school for girls and boys, and the subscribers thereto paid to the master £4 per annum for the use of it, and also kept the building in repair.

This trust has become all but extinct from the neglect of the surviving trustees to supply vacancies, the power originally vested in fifteen individuals being now centred in one. Such disregard to the expressed wishes of deceased benefactors is certainly not the best means of securing to our neighbourhoods future favours; and this is one of the instances where the services of the Charity commission (shortly to be revived) may be of essential use in obtaining for parties most interested those advantages which they are too indifferent to claim for themselves.

Sunday schools were first established in Manchester parish in 1784. At a meeting of the inhabitants specially convened in the month of August by the boroughreeve and constables, resolutions were passed in favour of their adoption. The Bishop of the diocese was also a supporter of the scheme, and its success was further promoted by the active services of the lord of the manor and the leading inhabitants. In their early stage they were placed under a general committee of management, whose labours were assisted by the overseers of the poor, and the following advertisement taken from the *Manchester Mercury* of January 2nd, 1792, throws some light on the means taken to ensure their success: "The committee of the Sunday schools request the visitors in Manchester will deliver to the overseers of the poor a list of the names of all the children who are instructed in each respective school, together with their age and place of abode; also the names of their parents or friends with whom they reside. It is presumed that every school is provided with a book in which is entered the names of all the children who attend the school, and marked every Sunday whether *present* or *absent*. This book being produced to the overseers once or twice in every month will answer the full intent. All parents receiving pay from the town and neglecting to send their children regularly to the Sunday school will, by this means, be strictly noted."

Within six years of their introduction into Manchester they had established a footing in Blackley; and in 1790 the incumbent, the Rev. John Griffith, advocated the cause in a sermon which was liberally responded to by the inhabitants, the collection for the support of the newly-established school amounting to £28.14.0.

The merit of their early institution in Blackley is due to one Robert Rayson a weaver, who commenced a school in his own cottage, but shortly afterwards, meeting with support from Mr. Braddock of Litchford, and Mr. Thomas Crompton, paper-maker, of Smedley, a larger room was obtained in Blackley hall, where he conducted his school for many years. The success of the scheme was sufficiently marked from its commencement to ensure its continuance, and when in 1794 the Hon. Edward Perceval, desiring to give a further stimulus to education in the township, presented an eligible site, and the inhabitants erected thereon a commodious building for school purposes, thither in after years the Sunday school was transferred.

Thus far it might seem that the teaching was almost wholly secular, possessing none of those features of distinctive doctrine which, as Sunday schools are now constituted, render separate schools necessary for the several religious denominations.

The first school in the township advancing a just claim to the designation of *Sunday* school, in our modern acceptance of the term, was commenced by the Wesleyans in the year 1801. At first it was held in cottage-houses, until 1806, when a building intended also for a chapel was erected at a cost of about £450, which served also for a school-room. In 1816 a school-room (exclusively such) was built, from which time the chapel ceased to be used for school purposes. This room was enlarged in 1853. The chapel premises contain an area of 533 square yards, and the land held of the Earl of Wilton is subject to a ground-rent of £3.6.8 per annum for ever. Connected with this school is a library of 165 volumes. In the year 1850 a Day school was commenced. There is no fixed endowment for the master, who, in addition to the free use of the school-room, receives the pence of the children

his scholars. In 1853 the numbers in attendance at the two schools were as follows : Sunday school—total boys and girls, 105 ; Day school — total boys and girls, 50.

In the year 1834 a national school was erected in Blackley on a site (617 square yards) given by the Earl of Wilton. The expense of its erection was defrayed by subscription of the inhabitants and others, aided by a grant of £110 from the National Society, which grant was afterwards indirectly augmented to £285. It was originally intended for a Day school, but having been superseded by Miss Alsop's liberal foundation it is now exclusively devoted to the purposes of a Sunday school. In 1853 the numbers in attendance were — boys, 214 ; girls, 259 ; total, 473. There is a library connected with this school containing 360 volumes.

The school-room or chapel of the Association Methodists was erected in 1836. The cause which led to its erection, and to the formation of the society, was a division in the Wesleyan body. It was built on the share principle, at a cost of £350, and consisted of an upper room with two small cottages beneath, the rent of the cottages and the pew-rents forming a small endowment fund. In 1853 it was rebuilt, the lower story being adapted for the purposes of a school, the chapel being above as formerly. The cost of its re-erection was £360, exclusive of the old materials. Connected with it is a Sunday school, which numbers 180 scholars. There is also a library consisting of 163 volumes. The site of the building was purchased from Mr. L. B. Delaunay, by Samuel Tonge and John Greenhalgh, at that time trustees ; the Deed of Conveyance bearing date March 24th, 1836. It pays a chief rent of £3.9.2. There is no Day school.

The principal school in the township is one built and endowed in 1838 by Miss Alsop of Litchford hall. It is used exclusively as a Day school and consists of two spacious rooms, each 36 feet by 24 feet, separated from each other by the teacher's house, which communicates internally with either school-room. Accommodation is provided for one hundred and fifty boys and a like number of girls. According to the terms of the trust-deed none are eligible

as trustees except members of the Church of England. The incumbent of Blackley Chapel is a trustee ex-officio. The structure is finished in the Tudor style, faced with brick relieved by stone dressings. The designs were furnished by Mr. Richard Tattersall of Manchester, who also superintended the erection of it. The site was purchased of the Earl of Wilton at a cost of £120, his lordship's offer of it having been declined. The expense of the buildings was about £2500, and Miss Alsop paid over to the trustees the further sum of £1600 for a permanent endowment fund, which sum is lent out on mortgage at four and a half per cent. The school was first opened May 16th, 1838. The original trustees were the Rev. W. R. Keeling, incumbent of Blackley; George Withington, esquire, of Parkfield near Manchester; Mr. Wilson (of the firm of Wilson and Creighton) Blackley; Edward Edwards, esquire, of Moston Lane; and James Schofield, esquire, of Middleton. The master and mistress receive £50 per annum, together with the pence of the children and a house rent-free. In 1853 the numbers of children in attendance were — boys, 116; girls, 90; total, 206.

The origin of Sunday schools in the detached hamlet of Crab Lane Head, in Blackley chapel district, is due to the exertions of several resident families in the humbler walks of life, who being desirous of improving their condition, agreed in 1815 to meet every Sunday in each others' houses for instruction in reading and writing. This continued until the year 1819, when a cottage was erected (without an inner partition wall) which might serve at once as a school and chapel, the promoters being New Connexion Methodists. In 1830 the present chapel was built, which is used also as a Sunday school. It occupies with the chapel yard, which is appropriated as a burial-ground, an area of 3,293 square yards. The site was purchased for £13.10.4, subject to a chief rent of eight shillings and sixpence per annum. The cost of its erection was £150, and it is capable of seating three hundred persons. In 1847 it was enlarged by the erection of a singing gallery and the construction of vestries beneath the chapel floor. In 1853 the number of scho-

lars in attendance was boys, 81; girls, 69; total, 150. Connected with the school is a library containing 275 volumes. In 1848 a mutual-improvement society for young men was formed, (followed, in 1850, by a similar society for young females,) which includes thirty-six members; and boasts a library of 100 volumes, separate and distinct from that of the Sunday school. There is no Day school.

The foundation stone of a school in Crab Lane, connected with the Established Church, was laid August 8th, 1842, by Mr. John Consterdine, a resident in Blackley, and a member of one of its oldest families. Site (535 square yards) given by the Earl of Wilton. The structure, which is of brick, was completed at a cost of £700; and was opened as a Sunday school January 1st, 1843;—it is calculated to accommodate 150 children. Its chief promoters were the Rev. W. R. Keeling the incumbent, and the inhabitants. To the building-fund the National Society contributed, and also the Committee of Council on Education, the latter to the extent of £184. In 1853 the number of scholars in attendance was boys, 70; girls, 60; total, 130. Attached to the school is a library containing 276 volumes, having a free circulation amongst the Sunday scholars and teachers. The room is also licensed for Divine Service on Sunday evenings. Here too a Day school is taught, which indeed was the primary object contemplated in the erection of the structure, and towards which the societies contributed. In 1853 the number of day-scholars in attendance was boys, 38; girls, 33; total, 71. It is endowed with £6 per annum, being the rent of a cottage situate in Blackley, built for that purpose in 1845 at the expense of the Rev. Henry George Nicholls, the assistant curate of the chapel. There is also a free residence for the teacher, whose income is further augmented by the children's pence.

Amongst the educational establishments in Blackley must be enumerated the Mechanics' Institute, founded in 1848. It occupies the ground-floor of the building before alluded to as erected in 1794, by the joint efforts of the Hon. Edward Perceval and the inhabitants of Blackley. On what terms this room is held does not

appear, but it is believed that the committee pays a small weekly rent to the teacher of a dame's school, to whom a gratuitous occupation of the entire building has been given by the sole surviving trustee of this neglected trust; and that no provision whatever exists for keeping the fabric in repair. The Institute meets with but little support from the inhabitants, and appears in a languishing condition. It possesses a library of 300 volumes.

In 1851 the Roman Catholics purchased two cottage-houses, which they have converted into a sort of chapel. There is also a resident priest.

The following table exhibits the present state of education in the township:— *Day Scholars*: Miss Alsop's school, 206; Wesleyan school, 50; Crab Lane Church school, 71; Private or dame's schools, 50; total, 377. *Sunday Scholars*: St. Peter's school, 473; Crab Lane Church school, 130; Wesleyan school, 105; Association Methodists, 180; New Connexion Methodists, Crab Lane, 150; total, 1,038. Connected with these schools are six libraries, which, together with the library of the Mechanics' Institute, contain 1,639 volumes.

The earliest return of the population of Blackley is in the year 1714, at which time it contained but 89 families, representing probably an aggregate of 445 persons. Of these families, 15 were Presbyterian.

In 1774 the number of families had increased to 270, consisting of 1,474 individuals, and residing in 240 houses. 591 of its inhabitants were under the age of fifteen years; 190 above fifty; 52 above sixty; 31 above 70; and 3 above eighty.

In 1801 the population had increased to 2,361. In 1811 it amounted to 2,389. In 1821, 2,911. Families employed in agriculture, 62; in manufactures, trade, &c., 416; otherwise, 96; total families, 574. In 1831 the population had increased to 3,020. In 1841, 3,202. In 1851, 3,503.

In 1655 the township contained fifty-nine ratepayers; and the aggregate poors' rate, payable by them for the six months ending November 25th, was £10.11.1½. In 1723 the same rates

amounted to £55.19.4½. In 1730, £100.18.1. In 1740, £74.2.9. In 1750, £72.0.4. In 1760, £86.19.8½. In 1770, £114.19.5½. In 1780, £333.3.7½; of which sum, £265.19.8½ was expended in weekly payments to the poor. In 1790, £346.14.0½. In 1800, £725.9.7½. In 1810, £1,120.17.5½; of which sum, £636.14.5 was expended in weekly payments to the poor. In 1828-29, £597; and in 1838, £525.18.6. In 1852, £576.18.4. The ratepayers in this latter year numbered 725.⁽¹⁾ Amongst the names of ratepayers in the township in 1655 are those of Mrs. Booth, Richard Beswick, Lawrence Gaskell, John Booker, Thomas Syddall, William Chetham, William Yates, George Travis, Ralph Travis, Richard Coop, Ralph Coop, Henry Dickenson (for parish ground), Ferdinand Buerdsell, &c.

In 1694 the annual value of property in the township, as assessed to the county-rate, was £364.19.7; in 1815 its value was returned at £5,436; in 1829, £6,838; in 1841, £7,673; and in 1852, £8,231. In this latter year there were in the township, public-houses, six; beer-houses, seven; county voters, sixty-eight.

The area of the township, as ascertained by Messrs. Johnsons' survey, was 1,811 acres. Rickman's computation (vide population returns, 1831), 1,840 acres. The population returns of 1851 make it 1,764 acres; and the Ordnance survey, 1,840a. Or. 81p.

In the year 1846 the land in the township was divided amongst thirty owners, of whom the following are the principal: the Earl of Wilton, 624 acres; George Richard Withington, esquire, (the Litchford hall estate,) 303 acres; Edmund Taylor, esquire, (the Booth hall estate,) 235 acres; James Walker, esquire, 135 acres; John Grant, esquire, (a portion of the Blackley hall estate,) 84 acres; John Hulton, esquire, 31 acres.

In Blackley commences the White Moss, which, stretching eastwards, gives its name to the adjacent township of Moston. The

(1) The rate books, which have been carefully preserved in the Town's chest, commence with the year 1723. The chief disbursements are for apprentice fees, burial fees, medical fees, clothing, rents paid, loom-hire, and out-door relief.

extent of that portion within Blackley township is 84 acres, of which 19 acres are at present under cultivation. Though Blackley contains but one cotton mill and two logwood-grinding mills, a considerable proportion of the inhabitants is occupied in manufactures, finding employment in the adjacent districts.

The trading enterprise of Blackley, though springing up at a period as early as that which marks its commencement in any of the other suburban districts of Manchester, shows little of the prosperity which has elsewhere attended it. To this, perhaps, the absence of coal in the immediate neighbourhood may have contributed. But certain it is, that two centuries ago Blackley boasted a greater number of mills and manufactories than it now contains, a fact which has scarcely a parallel in any of the townships forming portions of this great centre of manufacturing industry.

The first mill of which any record remains was, as might be supposed, a corn-mill.

By Indenture bearing date May 16th, 1610, Sir John Byron the elder of Newstead in the county of Nottingham, knight, Sir John Byron the younger of Royton, Sir Richard Asheton of Middleton, knight, John Holt of Stubley, esquire, and Richard Asheton of Middleton, esquire, son and heir-apparent of the said Sir Richard Asheton, at and upon the instance of a request of the said Sir John Byron the son, and by and with the full consent of all the parties aforesaid, for the consideration of the sum of £124 of good and lawful money, graunted, bargained, solde, enfeofed, and confirmed to Joseph Costerdine, his heirs and assigns, a messuage or tenement and one water corne-mylne and one kylne, situate, lying, and being in Blackley.

These premises, still known as Blackley Old Mill, are at the present day used for grinding logwood. Here the family of Consterdine continued to reside for upwards of a century, following the trade of corn-millers. In 1715 the property was mortgaged, and four years afterwards, the mortgage being foreclosed, the premises passed into the hands of William Broome of Chorlton, gentleman.

By Indenture tripartite, dated February 14th, 1726, between

William Broome of Chorlton, gentleman, and Mary his wife, of the first part, Joseph Consterdine of Manchester, miller, and Sarah his wife, of the second part, and Abraham Howarth of Manchester, linen draper, of the third part, it is witnessed that William Broome, for and in consideration of the sum of eight hundred pounds, grants, releases, and confirms to the said Abraham Howarth all those messuages and tenements, one water corn-mill and one kilne, formerly the property of Joseph Consterdine, &c. The premises were then leased (February 10th, 1727) for a term of seven years to William Allen of Chetham, miller, for £20 per annum. Meanwhile, the Consterdines deeming the foreclosure of the mortgage somewhat too hastily effected, the legality of the step was questioned by the mortgager's son James, who endeavoured to weaken Mr. Howarth's title to the property. This ineffectual attempt resulted in his incarceration in Lancaster castle as a false claimant, from which place he addresses his humble petition to Mr. Howarth, bearing date November 8th, 1764, having then suffered two years' imprisonment. He offers to sign a release of right to the property in question on condition of his speedy liberation, alleging that, not being able to support himself with necessaries in this his present confinement, he must inevitably be starved to death unless released.⁽¹⁾

From a survey of this estate, made November 4th, 1727, its extent was found to be 10a. 1r. 20p., divided as follows: The Furthest Field, The Weir Field, The Brick Kilne Close, The Damme Croft, The Yarn Croft, The Field at the back of the House, The New Chapel Field, The Old House Green Field or The Oak Croft, The Orchard at the back of the House, The Orchard at the Barne, The Three-cornered Piece, The Clough, The Lane at the Damside.

The staple trade of Blackley was, however, its woollen manufacture, which at this period had so extended itself throughout Lan-

(1) The Consterdines are amongst the earliest known residents in the township. From the pedigree of the Byrons, it appears that Sir John Byron, steward of Manchester, who in 1540 had a grant of the priory of Newstead in the county of Notts, married for his second wife Elizabeth, daughter of John Costerdine of Blackley.

cashire as to call for legislative interference for its control. An act, passed the 5th and 6th Edward VI. defines the length and weight of each piece, designing thereby to check the practice of unduly stretching it upon tenters to the injury of the fabric.⁽¹⁾

(¹) A Privy Council order, addressed in 1599 to the Justices of Assize for the county of Lancaster, directing the enforcing of this statute, is still preserved amongst the papers of the Hopwood family :

"After o' verie hartie comendacōns. Whereas in the last parlament there was a good and profitable act made against the tainting, stretchinge, strayingne, and other abuses committed in the makinge of wollen clothe in the counties of Yorke and Lancaster, and the residue of the counties of the north side of Trent. As the saide acte hath wrought good effect in the countie of York, where, wee understand by a petition exhibited latelie unto us, the saide abuses by meanes of that acte and the care of the justices in the execution of it to be very much reformed, So by the same petition a complaint is likewise made that w^{thin} the countie of Lancaster the clothiers are so farr from the dew observacion of this act, and from amendment of the aforesaid abuses, as that they do contynew and grow more and more offensive in the same, makinge their profite and advantage by the neglect of that good order w^{ch} others do carefullie and dutifullie observe. ffor whereas the clothes that are well and truelie made w^{thout} any such fraude must needes beare somewhat a higher price than the others that are so deceiptfully made; hereof it followeth that the sale of such Yorkshire clothes as are well made is gratelie hindered, and the clothiers thereby endamaged, and the tainted and strayned clothes (if wee have bin truelie informed) both of Lancashire itself and of some clothiers also of Yorkshire, that conveye their clothes into that countie to be stretched and strayned because they finde more libertie there and slacke execucion of the law, to have much more utterance. Thus much as wee have receaved by informacion, so wee have thought meete to be delivered and made knowne to you, to the ende that by yo^r meanes some better order may be taken for the execution of the act of parlament abovementioned, and for redresse of the saide abuses in the countie of Lancaster thus complayned of. And therefore wee do earnestlie pray and require yo^r at the next assizes in that countie to cause dilligent enquirie and presentment to be made of all such persons as have bin offend^o against the said law since the tyme it hath bin made and enacted, and for dew punishment of them according to the same. As also to give straight charge to all the justices of the peace of that countie to looke more dilligently and carefully unto the execucion of the saide act hereafter, as they regard their dutie and will avoide the blame that may light on them for their farther negligence in that behalfe. And so wee bidd yo^r hartelie well to fare. ffrom the Court at Greenwich the 24 of Maye 1599.

Yo^r verie loveinge freends,

Jo. Cant [Arbp. Whitgift].	Ro. North.
Tho. Egerton [Lord Chancellor].	Ro. Cecyll.
Sackville Buckhurst.	J. Fortescue.
	J. Popham.

By Indenture bearing date August 11th, 1673, William Bradshaw of Blackley conveys to Adam Gartside and Samuel Pendleton lands in Blackley: The Kilne Meadow, The Little Hulme, The Hagg, The Redd Hill, The Bank, The New Field, The Little Sundihurst, The Little Old Field, The Great Old Field, and the moiety of The Clough and Moss; also all that Fulling Mill and Tenter Croft.

By Indenture (and under the Will of Rawstorn Lever of Kersall, esquire,) dated November 12th, 1691, the executors named in the aforesaid will, for the consideration of £270, convey to Peter Coulburn of Cowdall in Pilkington all that messuage, farm, and tenement and fulling mill, commonly called Naden's Tenement and Fulling Mill, and all those several closes called The Further Field, The Middle Field, The Yarne Croft, The Barley Croft, The Rough Bank, The Bank above Naden's House, The Tenter Croft, The Carr Meadow, The Clough — containing in all about twelve acres.

This latter mill was situate at the south-east extremity of the township, and the clough named in the indenture is Boggart-hole clough, which designation it received prior to the year 1700.

By Will dated December 15th, 1692, William Heawood of Heaton super fallowfield, yeoman, leaves to his eldest son, Edmund Heawood and his heirs a mill and tenter croft situate in Blackley and Heaton. This is probably the property now known as the Heaton mill on the river Irk, which there forms the boundary of the townships of Heaton and Blackley, and the parishes of Prestwich and Manchester. In 1784 William Heawood, for the consideration of £500, conveys the said estate to Abraham Howarth of Manchester, merchant.

Nor was the manufacture of that fabric unknown in Blackley which in Fuller's time "served mean people for their outsides and their betters for the lining of their garments," which then "furnished good employment to the poor and great improvement to the rich," and which at the present day forms so leading a feature in the manufactures of Lancashire, namely, fustian.

In the year 1691 John Travis, who resided in Blackley and there "used the trade or mystery of a chapman by buying and selling of fustians," was declared a bankrupt, his debts amounting to £385.13.4. His estate in Blackley, in extent twenty-four acres, was sold for the benefit of his creditors: The Long Shutt, The Riding Platt, The Croft, The Round Meadow, The Green Marled Earth, The ffrith Field, The Little Marled Earth, The Great Field, The Calf Croft, The Field next the Wood, and a parcell of ground commonly called The Clough Wood. His principal creditors were, Richard Percival of Manchester, £22.16.0; Robert Offerton of Withington, £62.7.0; Jane Mosley widow, and Ann Mosley spinster, £21; Nathaniel Molineux gent., £24; Thomas Minshull jun. gent., £54.10.0; Samuel Angier clerk, £54.5.0; James Lighbowne esquire of Mostou, £13.19.0; John Tetlow of Moston, £9; William Birch of Burnage, £27.10.0.

The charities connected with the township are as follows:

By Indenture bearing date Sept. 28th, 1625, between ADAM CHETHAM of the one part, and Ralph Asheton, esquire, Humphrey Booth, and six others, of the other part, the said Adam Chetham, for the better maintenance of a minister to preach in Blackley chapel, and for the better relief and provision of the poor inhabiting within Blackley, granted and assigned to the said Ralph Asheton and others, and their assigns, a messuage or dwelling house, and a barn, and three several closes, called The Barn Meadow, The Slack Field, and The Little Meadow, containing, by estimation, three acres, in Blackley, (all which premises were demised to the said Adam Chetham by Indenture bearing date May 14th then last, for the term of 999 years from the day of the date thereof, at the yearly rent of four shillings and sixpence,) for the residue of the term then unexpired, subject to the payment of the said yearly rent of four shillings and sixpence, to the use of the said Adam Chetham for life, and after his decease on trust that the yearly rents of the said premises, all reasonable charges being deducted, should be faithfully and wholly disposed of, distributed, and employed in manner following, viz: one-third part thereof towards

the better maintenance of a preacher at Blackley chapel, and the other two-third parts towards the better succour, aid, and relief of such poor, aged, needy, and impotent people as for the time being should inhabit or dwell within the said township of Blackley, and by the judgments and good discretions of the two constables and chapel-reeves for the time being should be deemed to have need or want thereof, in such sort, manner, and form, and at such times, as the said constables and chapel-reeves should think fit; and it was provided, that whenever any six of the trustees should be dead, the two survivors should, within six months afterwards, convey the said premises to six or eight other substantial and discreet persons as should be in that behalf thought fit, upon the like trusts; and it was further provided, that the trustees for the time being, with such constables and chapel-wardens as should have received or distributed any of the rent, should, after the death of the said Adam Chetham, yearly, on the Tuesday in Easter week, in the presence of so many of the inhabitants of the said township as would vouchsafe to be thereat, make and yield up in Blackley chapel, a just and true account of all such sums of money as they should have received and disbursed.

By Indenture bearing date June 2nd 1815, Robert Scholes, the then surviving trustee, granted and assigned the said premise to John Hulton, Thomas Scholes, Thomas Travis, Roger Barnes, James Ogden, Joseph Travis, and William Kay, all of Blackley, for the residue of the said term of 999 years, subject to the payment of the yearly rent of four shillings and sixpence upon the trusts declared in the above abstracted indenture.

The property above-mentioned consists of about four acres of land, of seven yards to the perch. Upon part of it a poor-house has been erected for the use of the township, and the residue is held under a long lease, the particulars of which are stated below.

By Indenture dated December 24th, 1799, John Hulton and three others, then trustees, demised to the Rev. John Griffith of Manchester, the three closes commonly called The Poor's Land, in the township of Blackley, containing (with the excepted plot therein-

after mentioned) four acres, Lancashire measure, or thereabouts, and three cottages or bays of building lately erected by the said John Griffith on part of the said closes, with the appurtenances, (excepting the building or house called and used as a poor-house for the township of Blackley, and a plot of land at the back of the same, containing, with the site of the said poor-house, 20 perches, Lancashire measure,) and reserving all mines, timber, &c., for the term of ninety-three years from the day of the date thereof, at the yearly rent of £21, with a covenant on the part of the lessee to keep the said cottages in good and tenantable repair.

By Indenture of lease bearing date April 27th, 1816, reciting the lease above abstracted, and an Indenture bearing date November 1st, 1805, whereby the said John Griffith had assigned the said demised premises to Samuel Taylor for the residue of the said term of ninety-three years, and further reciting that soon after such assignment, in consideration of the then trustees agreeing to prolong the term of ninety-three years for the further term of twenty-one years, to commence from the expiration of such lease, and also in consideration of the said trustees relinquishing to the said Samuel Taylor a part of the said excepted land, containing 500 square yards or thereabouts, which had since been enjoyed by the said Samuel Taylor as a way or road to the said demised premises, the said Samuel Taylor erected at his own expense six new cottages, and made other improvements to the closes. John Hul-ton and six others, the then trustees, for the considerations afore-said, demised to the said Samuel Taylor the premises comprised in the before-recited indenture of lease, and also the said plot of land containing 500 square yards, to hold the latter from the 25th December then last, for the term of ninety-eight years, and to hold the rest of the said demised premises for the term of twenty-one years from the 25th December 1892, when the said recited lease would expire, under the yearly rent of £21, and subject to the conditions contained in the said recited lease.

This was done with the concurrence of the incumbent of Blackley, who was consulted upon the occasion, and was satisfied of the expediency of the proposed measure.

There were in 1826 (when the Charity commissioners made their report) ten small houses on the premises, containing two stories each, and it is stated that they were substantially built and in good repair.

The annual value of these houses, with the adjoining land, was then estimated at about £60. The lease was vested in the executors of the said Samuel Taylor. The site of the poor-house contains about 500 or 600 square yards; nothing appears ever to have been paid to the charity in respect of these premises. The rent paid under the lease of 1816 is received by one of the trustees, and one third is paid to the incumbent of the chapelry; the other two thirds, together with eighteen shillings yearly in respect of the charities of Thomas and John Travis hereafter mentioned, are laid out in the purchase of linen cloth which is distributed by the trustees, with the assistance of the overseers and other inhabitants, to poor persons of the township on or about Christmas day, in quantities sufficient for shirts or shifts, a preference being given to such persons as are not maintained out of the poor-rates.

By Deed executed by John Hulton and Edward Hulton, and bearing date December 20th, 1800, reciting that THOMAS TRAVIS, by his will bearing date January 12th, 1721, bequeathed to James Bayley, George Travis his son, Thomas Travis his grandson, and Thomas Jackson, the sum of £20, to be placed out at interest with all convenient speed upon some good security, wherein two shall be bound at the least, besides the principal, the interest thereof to be paid for the benefit of poor persons inhabiting in Blackley, and directed that whenever two of the trustees should be dead, the survivors should choose two substantial inhabitants within Blackley to be co-trustees with them; and that, after reciting that JOHN TRAVIS his father had left in 1678 £20, then in his hands, to be placed out, and one half of the interest to be paid yearly to the parson of Blackley chapel, and the other half to the poor inhabiting in Blackley, the said testator directed that the said £20 should be placed out in the same manner as

his own legacy of £20, and reciting several subsequent appointments of trustees, and that the said John and Edward Hulton were then the only survivors, and were advanced in years; the said John and Edward Hulton elected and appointed Thomas Travis junior, Thomas Scholes, George Wordley, and another since deceased, all inhabitants of Blackley, trustees for the said two legacies, with directions as to the appointment of new trustees when there should be two only surviving.

In 1826 the Commissioners reported that the sum of £40 is in the hands of Mr. Thomas Travis, one of the trustees appointed by the above abstracted deed, he having received it from Thomas Scholes, when he ceased to reside in the township, and that he pays interest for it at the rate of three and a half per cent. The yearly sum of ten shillings has hitherto been paid to the minister of the chapel of Blackley, Mr. Travis not having been aware that he was entitled only to one moiety of the interest of the sum of £20 given by John Travis. The residue of the interest has of late years been added to the rent arising from Chetham's charity, above-mentioned.⁽¹⁾

ALICE ALSOP of Litchford hall in the township of Blackley, by Will bearing date April 21st, 1826, left unto certain trustees the sum of £500, to be by them invested in the public Funds, the interest arising therefrom to be paid yearly, by the said trustees, to the minister and chapel-wardens of Blackley chapel for the time being, for the following purposes: £3 to be paid yearly to the said minister for the time being; and the remainder to be laid out in the purchase of blankets, to be distributed by the minister and chapel-wardens amongst such poor old and infirm persons as shall be residing within the township. The distribution to take place the last week of the month of November in each year.

These several bequests are briefly commemorated on a tablet affixed to the walls of the church.

⁽¹⁾ Report of the Commissioners of Public Charities, 1826.

HARPURHEY.

The small township of Harpurhey lies to the north north-east of Manchester, from which it is distant about two miles and a half. Its name associates it with Saxon origin, and signifies the coppice-wood of one Harpur, who, it is conjectured, owned the tract of land and resided there as its first colonist. The probable supposition is, that prior to the year 1291 a part of the township was included within the forest of Blackley.

The area of Harpurhey is variously estimated. According to Rickman's computation, incorporated with the Census Returns of 1831, its superficial extent is 270 acres. The Tithe Commissioners, as stated in the Census Returns of 1851, make it 192 acres; Messrs. Johnson and Son, 165 acres; and the Ordnance Survey, 192a. 3r. 13p. To the antiquarian it possesses literally no feature of interest, never having been in ancient times, as far as can now be ascertained, the residence of any individual of note. From time immemorial the estate has been in the hands of one family, by whom it was subdivided into small farms, the lord of the soil residing elsewhere; and probably no capital messuage was ever erected thereon.

Harpurhey forms a part of the ancient manor of Manchester, and from the Rent-roll of Thomas West, lord Delawarr and lord of Manchester, it appears that in 1472 John Hulton (or Hilton, for anciently the name was written both ways) of Farnworth, esquire, held a messuage, &c., in the neighbourhood of Manchester, called "Harphey," from the aforesaid lord by soccage and by the annual payment of £1.6.8.

From the Inquisition post mortem of Richard Hulton, in the 24th Henry VII. (1508,) who is described as "ideota et fatuus," we learn that he died seised of lands in Farnworth, Neyther Hulton, Denton, and Harpurhey in Manchester. Subsequent inquisitions of William Hulton, of the date of 3rd and 4th Philip

*On 1 Apr. 1327 (1226 iiii) John la Warre granted to Adam son of Robert de Radecshie and Alice his dau. wife of John son of Henry de Hulton 80 acres of land and woods called la Harpurescheie lying next the policies of the Park of Blatolegh to hold to Adam and the heirs of the body of Alice for life.
(Hulton Pedigree, p. 36).*

and Mary (1555 - 6), Adam Hulton, 15th Elizabeth (1572), Adam Hulton, 40th Elizabeth (1597), and William Hulton, 11th James I. (1613) show the descent of the property to have been uninterrupted; and thus it continued to be held by the same family until the commencement of the present century.

On the death of Richard Hulton of Farnworth without issue, in 1508, he was succeeded by his nephew William Hulton, eldest son of his brother James, who in the 3rd Henry VIII. (1511,) being then under age, was represented in the Duchy court at Lancaster in a suit at that time pending between himself and Thomas Pilkington, by Sir Thomas West, lord de la Warre, the said Lord de la Warr claiming wardship of the lands, tenements, and appurtenances of the aforesaid William Hulton. This William Hulton married Christiana, daughter of John Radcliffe of Ordsall, esquire, and dying November 10th, 1555, left his grandson, William Hulton, his heir — the eldest son of his (testator) eldest son John — at his grandfather's death aged about four years.

After the decease of William Hulton much litigation ensued, the title to the family estates being contested by several claimants. The Calendar of Pleadings in the court aforesaid gives an enumeration of the names of the several suitors:

In the 4th and 5th Philip and Mary (1556 - 7) Adam Hulton and Alan Hulton dispute, with Christian Hulton and others, the title to messuages, lands, &c., in Harpurhey and elsewhere.

In the 1st Elizabeth (1558) James Hulton, who is described as heir male to William Hulton, has a suit against Sir John Hulton clerke; the subject in dispute being messuages, lands, turbary, and appurtenances in several places, including Harpurhey.

In the 3rd Elizabeth (1560) Christian Hulton, widow and devisee of William Hulton, prosecutes Adam Hulton, who claims by conveyance from John Hulton messuages, lands, and appurtenances situate in Harpurhey and other parts of Lancashire, concerning which there had been a decree.

In the 6th Elizabeth (1563) John Hulton clerk, who is described as "cousin and heir to William Hulton," claiming by conveyance

from William Demarshe clerk, and Richard de Ferneothe, have a suit against James Hulton of Chorley and Katharine Hulton and Christian Hulton, claiming under William Hulton, late husband of the said Christian Hulton (and pleading a writ of injunction in a former suit), messuages, lands, rents, and appurtenances in Harpurhey, &c.

In the 12th Elizabeth (1569) Katharine Hulton and Christian Hulton, as sisters and coheirs, and claiming by descent from William Hulton, seised in fee, are plaintiffs in a suit against Alan Hulton, who claims under a decree in chancery, which the plaintiffs alleged to have been *coram non judice* because of the Queen's writ under the great seal not running into the county palatine; the point at issue being the title to divers lands and tenements in Harpurhey and elsewhere, concerning which a commission of view was directed to Edward Halsall and others. A writ of *diem clausit extremum* also appears on the proceedings, and an inquisition taken at Wigan the 3rd and 4th Philip and Mary (1555 - 6.)

Ultimately the differences appear to have been adjusted, and the Farnworth branch of the family seems to have merged into the elder line, settled at Hulton.

Until the reign of Elizabeth the adjacent lands of Collyhurst were uninclosed, and the right of common pasture extended into Harpurhey. These waste lands were first brought under cultivation in the year 1574, the lord of the manor leasing them at the rate of four shillings an acre subject to the payment of a preliminary fine of twenty shillings. At first the inhabitants of the surrounding district resisted the step as an invasion of their ancient rights. In 1579 one James Barlowe was compelled to resort to law in vindication of his exclusive claim to lands in "Colthurste," Harpurhey, and Manchester, which he held as lessee of the lord of the manor; and in 1603 Ralph Houlme, Adam Smythe, and others, burgesses and inhabitants of Manchester, sought to establish their claim to "common pasture on lands called Collyhurst, and other specified lands in Harpurhey," against Sir Nicholas Mosley, into whose hands the manor of Manchester had been recently transferred.

In 1808 the Harpurhey estate was advertised for public sale at the Bridgewater Arms, Manchester, and the sale fixed for November 30th.

The modern mansion of Harpurhey hall occupies the site formerly known as Boardman's Tenement.

By Indenture dated June 24th, 1810, between William Hulton of Hulton park, eldest son and heir-at-law of William Hulton late of the same place, esquire, deceased, of the first part, Henry Hulton of Preston, esquire, and William Cross of the same place, esquire, of the second part, and Thomas Andrew of Harpurhey, merchant, of the third part, It is witnessed that for and in consideration of the sum of £6700 by the said Thomas Andrew to the said William Hulton, to be paid as follows, viz., £3000 forthwith, £2000 on the 12th of May next, and the residue, £1700, on the 24th of June,—they, the said William Hulton, Henry Hulton, and William Cross, grant, bargain, and sell to the aforesaid Thomas Andrew all that messuage and tenement situate in Harpurhey, commonly known by the name of Boardman's, together with the following closes or parcels of land: The Lane End Field, The Green Field, The Lane Meadow, The Barn Field, The Home Close and Road, The Clough Field, The Clough, The Upper Smithy Bank, The Print Field, The Lower Smithy Bank, The Chapel Field, The Higher Croft,—in all fifty acres, statute measure, to hold the same unto himself, his heirs, and assigns for ever.

By Will dated June 23rd, 1814 (proved at Chester Feb. 14th, 1822) Thomas Andrew devises his estate called Boardman's, situate in Harpurhey, to his son Edward, who in turn, by will dated January 7th, 1841 (proved at Chester March 30th, 1842), leaves it to certain trustees on trust that they shall sell and absolutely dispose of the said capital messuage, &c.

Accordingly, by Deed of agreement made January 18th, 1847, between Frances Andrew widow, Joseph Hargreaves merchant, and George Hargreaves merchant, on the one part, and John Barratt gentleman on the other part, It is witnessed that for and in consideration of the sum of £8400, the said Joseph Hargreaves and

For Andrew Pedigree, see p. 118 ante

George Hargreaves, with the consent of the said Frances Andrew, agree to sell to the said John Barratt, who agrees to purchase, the fee simple and inheritance of that capital messuage called Harpurhey hall, with the lodge, hot-houses, stables, &c., in all 36 acres, to hold the same unto himself, his heirs, and assigns for ever.

Mr. Barratt completed the purchase, and is the present owner of the estate.

In 1784 that portion of the Harpurhey estate since designated Green Mount consisted of several farms, held on lease from the Hulton family.

By Indenture bearing date March 10th, 1784, William Hulton of Hulton, esquire, leases to Joseph Redford of Harpurhey, farmer, for a term of twenty-two years, lands situate in that township, at an annual rent of £41 for the first eleven years, and £80 for each succeeding year during the remainder of the term.

In 1791 Joseph Redford, for the consideration of £80, transfers all his estate and interest in the premises, above demised, to Mr. Robert Andrew of Manchester, dyer, subject to the provisions of the lease already granted, and for the residue of the term yet unexpired.

In July, 1793, William Hulton, esquire, renews and grants a more extended lease of the premises for the term of ninety-nine years to Mr. Andrew, at an annual rent of £91.

The property thus leased was in extent 24a. 2r. 7p., Lancashire measure, and is described as now, or late, in the occupation of James Redford: The Under Ground, The Barn Field, The Great Meadow, The Wheat Croft, The Great Croft, The Holt Acre, The Higher Gutter Twigg, The Lower Gutter Twigg, The Great Clough, The Wheat Croft Brow, The Further Tough Hey, The Long Pit Tough Hey, The Sand Hole Tough Hey, The Nearer Tough Hey. On obtaining possession, Mr. Andrew at once proceeded to erect premises suitable for his business; and in 1795 added to his property by a further lease from Mr. Hulton of a tenement and lands in the same township, for a term of fourteen years, at an annual rent of £50: The Well Soiled Croft, The Daisy Croft, The Barn

Field, The Hollow Meadow, The Long Wheat Field, The Little Wheat Field, The Great Wheat Field, and The Nearer Brow; in all 16a. Or. 29p., Lancashire measure.

In May, 1801, Mr. Andrew died intestate, and Letters of Administration being granted to his widow, she, in 1805, disposed of the interest of her deceased husband in the lands of Harpurhey, and the dye-works erected thereon, as also the implements and utensils of trade, to Mr. Robert Andrew, her son, for the sum of £6,338.

In 1808, Mr. Hulton having resolved to dispose of his Harpurhey estates, Mr. Andrew, the lessee, became absolute purchaser of the above-recited leasehold property, together with other lands in the township.

By Indenture bearing date May 12th, 1809, between William Hulton of Hulton Park in the county of Lancaster, esquire, eldest son and heir of William Hulton late of the same place, esquire, deceased, of the first part, Henry Hulton of Preston in the said county, esquire, and William Cross of the same place, esquire, of the second part, and Robert Andrew of Harpurhey in the said county, dyer, of the third part, It is witnessed, that for and in consideration of the sum of eight thousand pounds then in part paid, with security for the payment of the remainder, they, the said William Hulton, Henry Hulton, and William Cross, do grant, bargain, alien, release, and confirm to the said Robert Andrew all that messuage and tenement, cottages and buildings, situate in Harpurhey, now in the occupation of the said Robert Andrew as tenant, together with the several closes, fields, or parcels of land thereto belonging: The Gutter Twiggs, The Home Close Clough and Reservoirs, The Half Acre, The Holme Stead and Garden, The Long Hill Tough Hey with the fence and watercourse running on the north side thereof, The Sand Hole Tough Hey, The Hollow Meadow, The Collyhurst Brow, The Nearer Brow, The Wheat Fields, The Little Wheat Field, in all 67a. Or. 8p., statute measure, to hold the same unto the said Robert Andrew, his heirs and assigns, for ever. To the estate thus acquired Mr. Andrew subsequently added by the purchase of other lands in the township.

An Indenture between the same parties bearing date January 2nd, 1812, Witnesses, that for and in consideration of the sum of five thousand pounds to the said William Hulton, well and truly paid by the said Robert Andrew, they, the said William Hulton, Henry Hulton, and William Cross, grant, bargain, sell, alien, release, ratify, and confirm unto the said Robert Andrew all that messuage or dwelling-house situate in Harpurhey, together with the several closes or fields thereunto belonging: The Baw House Field, The Two Stiles, The House Close, with house, outbuildings, and garden, now or late in the occupation of Mary Redford as tenant; also all that other messuage situate in Harpurhey aforesaid, together with the several closes thereunto belonging: The Lower Bradshaw Field, The Higher Bradshaw Field, The Pingle, The Lower Barn Field, The Meadow, with site of house, outbuildings, and garden, The Near Barn Field, The Far Barn Field, now or late in the occupation of Jonas Ogden as tenant; also all that close situate in Harpurhey aforesaid, called the Long Acre, in all 30a. 1r. 36p., statute measure; and also the Reversion and Inheritance in fee simple of the several closes or parcels of land situate in Harpurhey aforesaid: The Further Brow, The Orchard, The Twig, The Marled Earth, and The Green Field, in all 12a. 0r. 33p., statute measure; and also of and in all that river or stream of water called the Moss Brook, running on the east side of the said two closes, The Orchard and The Further Brow, such Reversion being expectant on the determination of a lease of the same premises, bearing date June 24th, 1790, and granted by William Hulton, deceased, father of the said William Hulton, to Samuel Taylor of Moston, merchant, for the term of ninety-nine years, from May 1st, 1795, at the yearly rent of £21 — to have and to hold the said messuages, tenements, closes, &c., unto the said Robert Andrew, his heirs and assigns, for ever.

Having completed the purchase, and the estate being already in part in his own occupation, Mr. Andrew erected thereon an elegant and commodious mansion, in which he continued to reside until his death, June 9th, 1831.

By his Will dated May 31st, 1831, (proved at Chester December 15th of the same year,) he bequeaths his entire estates to certain trustees, for the ultimate benefit of his daughter and sole heiress, Robina, wife of Captain Conran.

In 1846 the number of landowners in the township was seven, of whom the principal were the trustees of Mr. Robert Andrew, (the Green-mount estate,) 111 acres; Mr. John Barratt, (the Harpurhey hall estate,) 37 acres; Mr. Henry Hilton, (the Harpurhey cottage estate,) 12 acres; Messrs. Heald, Wilson, and Co., (Print-works,) 13 acres; and the Rev. Thomas Andrew, (Print-works, &c., in the occupation of Mr. Nevill,) 11 acres.

The earliest population returns for Harpurhey are in the year 1774, at which time the township included within its limits but thirteen houses, containing a total of sixteen families, or eighty individuals. Of these thirty-four were under the age of 15, ten above 50, three above 60, two above 70, two above 80, and one exceeding 90 years. One house was set apart as a poor-house, and was then tenanted by two families consisting of nine persons.

In 1801 there were, houses 16, inhabitants 118; in 1811, inhabitants 172; in 1821, houses 59, inhabitants 297; in 1831, houses 78, inhabitants 463; in 1841, houses 96, inhabitants 438; in 1851, houses 99, inhabitants 458.

In 1655 the number of rate-payers was seven, viz., Olive Taylor, Edward Dawson, William Booker and his son, George Barlow and his son, and John Gorton. Their aggregate poor's-rate for the half-year ending November 25th, was £2.5.5. In 1852 the number of rate-payers was one hundred and three, and the total rate collected was £62.18.10½, the gross annual value of property in the township, as rated for the poor, being £2342.

In 1692 the annual value of real property, as assessed to the land-tax, was £32.5.10; in 1815, as assessed to the county rate, £725; in 1829, £1148; in 1841, £1770; and in 1853, £2274.

Harpurhey is in the polling district of Manchester; and in 1853 the number of persons having votes for the county was five, for the

borough seventeen. In this latter year there was one public-house and no beer-house in the township; in manufactures, &c., two print-works and one weaving-shed.

For ecclesiastical purposes Harpurhey, from its proximity to Blackley, was always considered as associated and closely connected with that chapel. It is not, however, certain that to any of the chapels of ease, from time to time erected in the parish, were separate districts ever formally assigned; so that in early times it is probable that the convenience of the inhabitants was the only recognized rule. This it was proposed to remedy in the days of the Commonwealth by the appointment of a commission, whose object was the subdivision of the larger parish churches and the transformation of parochial chapels and chapels of ease into parishes, with assigned districts. From an Inquisition taken at Manchester on Monday, June 16th, 1650, before these commissioners, it appeared that "Harpurhey hath neither church, chapel, nor benefice, and that the inhabitants resort to Blackley and are fit to be united to that parish, being nearer unto the said chapel than to any other church or chapel."⁽¹⁾ This contemplated change was not however carried out, and the commission left Harpurhey as it found it, separate and distinct from Blackley, and yet practically united with it for all ecclesiastical purposes.

At this time the tithes of Harpurhey, payable to the Warden and Fellows of Manchester, were returned at £1.10.0 per annum, the total tithes of the parish of Manchester being £550. In 1701 the tithes collected in the township amounted to £2.14.0, and were leased to one Thomas Taylor. In 1848 the rent-charge of the township in lieu of tithes, payable to the Dean and Chapter of Manchester, was £14.

It was not until the year 1837 that a real severance was effected, a step at that time less difficult of attainment than when formerly attempted, by reason of the changed condition of the two hamlets in respect of population after the lapse of two hundred years, and the increased opulence of the inhabitants.

(¹) *Bibliothec. MSS. Lamb. fol. 196.*

On the 10th of July 1837 the foundation-stone of Christ church was laid by Edward Andrew esquire, the then owner of the Harpurhey hall estate, on a site presented by Miss Andrew of Green Mount and Samuel Taylor esquire of Moston, conjointly. The site selected was on the confines of Harpurhey and Moston, as being central for both townships, the church then projected being designed for the convenience of both. It was consecrated September 24th, 1838. The bounds of the ecclesiastical district thus created (1 and 2 Gul. IV. cap. 38) are as follows: The townships of Harpurhey and Moston, together with that part of the northern extremity of the township of Manchester which is separated from the rest of that township by the lane bounding the Hendham hall estate (now the Queen's park) to the south, commencing with the wooden bridge over the river Irk near Smedley old hall, and terminating at its intersection with the Rochdale road — a line from that point across the Rochdale road to a lane called Lamb Lane and that lane to the boundary between Manchester and Newton.

The structure was completed at a cost of £4077.15.0, and contains 950 sittings, of which 250 are free. Its only endowment consists of the interest on £1000, added to which is a commodious parsonage-house erected in 1846 at a cost of £1112 from the stereotyped plans (since abandoned) of the Ecclesiastical commissioners, who have signalised themselves by the multiplication of residences for the clergy, each a counter-part of the other and all alike inelegant. Towards the erection of the parsonage-house the commissioners contributed £400, the bounty board £200, Pyncombe's trustees £100, and £412 in local subscriptions. The site (2418 square yards) was given by Samuel Taylor esquire. In 1845 an organ was purchased by subscription of the inhabitants and others, the cost of which was £260.

The most populous part of the ecclesiastical district is situated without the limits of the two townships of Harpurhey and Moston, viz., in that part of Collyhurst which forms the complement. Here is the National school, erected in 1838, at an expenditure of £1300, towards which the National society contributed £350, and the Com-

mittee of council £200; an additional sum of £700 was also raised by a bazaar, in furtherance of this object. The ground on which the school is erected is subject to a chief rent of £10 per annum. Its only endowment is £5 per annum, which is derived from Betton's charity. Here also is one of the general cemeteries of Manchester, eleven acres in extent, first opened to the public in 1837, a part of which was consecrated in 1848. From 1837 to 1842 the number of interments therein was 911; from 1842 to 1847, 2,871; from 1847 to 1852 (March 24th), 6,825. Adjoining the cemetery is the Queen's park, formerly known as the Hendham hall estate, until lately the residence and property of Jonathan Andrew, esquire. It is in extent about 30 acres, and was purchased in 1845 by the Public Parks' Committee for the sum of £7,250.

The first incumbent of Harpurhey was the Rev. Thomas Hutchinson M.A., who resigned the charge in 1840, and was succeeded by the Rev. John Hayes M.A., curate of St. Michael's, Manchester. Mr. Hayes held the church until the year 1854, when he was appointed to the incumbency of Coalbrook-dale in Shropshire. His successor at Harpurhey was the Rev. Charles Marshall, the present incumbent.

The patronage of the church is vested in five trustees.

Two churchwardens are annually elected, one by the minister and the other by the pewholders.

MOSTON.

The township of Moston is distant about three miles and a half north-east from Manchester. Its etymology is Saxon, the name signifying a town or village placed on or near a moss, which early characteristic it retains to the present day, a part of the township known as the White Moss being still unreclaimed.

The superficial area of Moston, as computed by Rickman, is 1,240 acres; Messrs. Johnson's survey returns it at 1,243 acres; in the returns of 1851 it is stated at 1,271 acres; and in the Ordnance survey, 1,297a. Or. 34p.

According to Whitaker, a Roman road, laid from the camp at Manchester and proceeding into Yorkshire, passed in its course through Moston—it branched probably from the way to Cambodunum about Ancoats Lane, and traversing the township obliquely, passed by Street Fold in Moston, Street Bridge in Chadderton, and Street Gate in Royton, pointing evidently for Littleborough and Ilkley.⁽¹⁾ It seems, however, that Whitaker's conjecture is founded on these several appellations, and not on any actual remains which have been discovered, or even on any traditional notices which were extant concerning such route.

Moston is named as early as 1301, in the charter granted by Thomas Grelle, lord of the manor of Manchester, to his burgesses, and is, for some reason, therein exempted from the payment of the customary tribute to the lord in relation to his soke-privileges, a portion of which impost is remitted to the inhabitants of Moston. "The milne of Manchester," writes Hollingworth, "upon the waters of Irke, valued at £10 per annum, at which all the burgesses and tenants of Manchester, with the hamells of Ardwickes, Pen-sham (Openshaw), Carmeshall (Crumpsall), Moston, Notehurst, Getheswicke, and Ancoats, ought to grinde, paying the sixteenth graine; besides the lord of Moston, which was hopp free, yielding

(1) *History of Manchester*, vol. i., p. 191, 2nd edition.

the twentieth graine.”⁽¹⁾ This obligation was in conformity with a law by which, in feudal times, vassals were compelled to grind their corn at their lord’s mill, for which they paid a certain tax in kind; at first such toll as the lord chose to exact, but afterwards an attempt was made to proportion it to the force of the mill-stream; and an old statute of uncertain date (about the reign of Henry III., Edward I., or Edward II.) enacts, that the toll of a mill shall be taken according to the custom of the land, and according to the strength of the water-course, (*secundum fortitudinem cursûs aquæ.*) Nor was this stipulation to grind at the lord’s mill other, we may imagine, than cheerfully acquiesced in, since the building of mills was at all times expensive, and undertaken only by the rich, who, to indemnify themselves for the money expended in order to benefit the people, required a pledge from the inhabitants of the neighbourhood, that they would grind their corn at no other mills than those erected for them.⁽²⁾ This obligation, recited in the charter of 1301, continued binding upon the tenants of the manor till the year 1758, when, after much litigation, a compromise was effected under the authority of parliament, and the soke-privilege was abolished except so far as it related to the grinding of malt.

In a survey of the extent of the manor of Manchester, made in the 15 Edward II. (1322,) reference is made to a certain bailiff, the lord’s sergeant, sworn to ride about and overlook his demesne and collect the rents of the lord’s out-tenants, to whose maintenance, and that of a boy and horse, and his four sub-bailiffs, the lord’s tenants in Moston and Notehurst were ordered to contribute: “They shall find for the said chief-sergeant, when he shall come, bread, ale, and victuals, and other things necessary according to the season; and for his boy and four sub-bailiffs, such food as they provide in the household; and provender for his horse.”⁽³⁾

From the Grelles the manor passed to the family of West,

⁽¹⁾ Hollingworth’s *Mancuniensis*, p. 33.

⁽²⁾ Beckmann’s *History of Inventions*, (Bohn’s edition,) vol. i., pp. 170, 171.

⁽³⁾ Harl. MSS., Cod. 2085.

successively lords de la Warre, and in the 5 Henry VI. (1426), Thomas la Warre, lord of Manchester, is found seised *inter alia* of the hamlet of Moston, with the messuages and lands called Brides-haghe lying up to Boukerleghe[†]. In the 12 Edward IV. (1473), the manor of Manchester was settled on the heirs of Sir Thomas West (son and heir of Richard, lord de la Warre) and Alianor his wife, and from a rental of their estates, which was taken the following year, it appears that James Radclyffe, esquire, held the lordship of Moston by subinfeudation from the lord of Manchester, at an annual rent of six shillings and sixpence.⁽¹⁾

In the 18 Henry VII. (1502), Richard Radcliffe, esquire, died seised of the manor of Radcliffe, &c., and also of the manor of Moston; and from the Inquisition of Sir John Radcliffe, in the reign of Henry VIII., it appears that he held the manors of Mosseton and Curmyssall, and lands in Manchester, subject to an annual payment of ten shillings.

Robert Radcliffe was in 1529 created earl of Sussex, and as lord of Moston he leased lands in the township to the family of Shacklock, who about that time settled there.

In the 38 Henry VIII. (1546,) Robert Shacklock and Thomas Shacklock were plaintiffs in the Duchy court at Lancaster in a cause against Hugh Shacklock and others, in respect of a disputed title to a tenement and lands in Moston, held by lease from Robert, earl of Sussex. Henry Radcliffe, second earl of Sussex, continued in possession of the manor until his death in 1557, when his interest appears to have passed to some collateral branch of his family, since we meet with no mention of his direct heirs in connexion therewith. In the 11 Elizabeth (1568), Sir William Radcliffe is found seised of the manor of Ordsall and of lands in Moston, and subsequent Inquisitions of Sir John Radcliffe, his son, and Sir Alexander Radcliffe, his grandson, both of Ordsall, dated respectively 1589 and 1599, seem to confirm the supposition. In process of time the interest of the Radcliffes in the lands of Moston entirely ceased, the estate having passed into the possession of numerous

(1) Corry's *History of Lancashire*, vol. ii., p. 454.

[†] In 1418 Thomas lord de la Warre granted to his people a messuage land in Moston called Brides-haghe next Boukerleghe lately held by Thomas le Bouker; the bounds began at the south, at a gate in the side of the lane leading from the Common of Peckers of Theda Moor to Manchester, passing the holding of Robert Lindelock, at the bounds of Theda Moor &c. next by (Chanc. Reg. p. 58. Hen. VI. 1. 24. In 1522 Sir Seeshaghe seems to be reckoned as part of Crumpford (Manuscript ii. 363).

small proprietors; and the seignory meanwhile retained by the Wests, lords de la Warr, was by that family transferred (as a part of the manor of Manchester) in 1578 to John Lacy, citizen and clothworker of London, who, seventeen years after, re-conveyed it to Nicholas Mosley, citizen and alderman of London; from this family it was purchased in 1846 by the Corporation.

United with Moston, so as to be now undistinguishable from it, is Nuthurst, which was anciently regarded as an independent hamlet, and is so recognised in all deeds relating to the manor of Manchester, of which, like Moston, it formed a part. It is thus mentioned in Grelle's charter of 1301, wherein it is separately named and excluded from the privilege conferred by the charter on Moston proper. The name Nuthurst signifies a grove of hazles; but however answerable such designation to its real character when first conferred, this hamlet does not appear to have possessed any advantage over Moston in regard to the sterile aspect it presented at the time to which the earliest records that have reached us relate.

About the year 1200, Robert (or Roger), eldest son of Orme de Assheton, inspired by the piety of his age, gave to God, St. Mary, and the Abbey of Cockersand, lands in Nuthurst.⁽¹⁾ In 1301-2, Richard de Moston claimed a right of pasture in Nuthurst, and resisted the encroachment of his neighbour, Geoffrey de Chadderton.⁽²⁾ At the commencement of the sixteenth century Nuthurst formed the residence of two families of distinction, the Chethams and the Chaddertons. In the year 1504 Thomas Chetham died seised of lands in Nuthurst; and in 1528 Nicholas Whythed and William Skolls entered a suit in the Duchy court at Lancaster against Thomas Chetham and Edmund Chadderton for disturbance of pasture in Chadderton manor and Theyle-moor waste. This Theyle-moor⁽³⁾ was known also as Nuthurst waste, and received its

⁽¹⁾ Kuerden's MSS., fol. 214.

⁽²⁾ *Abbreviatio Rotulorum Originalium*.

⁽³⁾ The word *moor*, of which, according to Thoresby, the genitive is *moos*, is an Anglo-Danic word, signifying *solum grumis sterilibus obaitum*: hence our English word *moor*.

name from one John Hall, who, as tenant or otherwise, had been associated with it. In family papers of ancient date belonging to the earl of Wilton, it is incidentally mentioned as "John Halle his more," and it is easy to trace the gradual corruption of the word into Halle moor, th' Halle moor, th'eyle moor, as we then find it. It has now in a measure resumed its former designation of Hale moor or moss, and consists of the tract of land bordering on Failsworth, which is enclosed between the Lancashire and Yorkshire railway and the Rochdale canal. The survey of the extent of the manor, taken in 1322, states that in Harmoss are twenty acres of moor, and in Whitmoss, ten acres; and in the appendix to the above survey, the names Haremoss and Whytemoss are again mentioned, though nothing is said as to their respective areas. A portion of this hamlet called "The Equall" was in 1598 in the occupation of James Assheton, Thomas Matthews, and James Hartley, who were called upon to defend themselves in the Duchy court from charges preferred against them by Ralph Jackson and Peter Travis, lessees of the Warden and Fellows of Manchester, the subject in dispute being a question of tithe, and an unwillingness to contribute towards the assessments made in the parish.

A few yards to the west of the Lancashire and Yorkshire line of railway stands Great Nuthurst hall, an irregular pile of brick, without much pretension to antiquity. It claims no particular notice if we except an antiquated gable still remaining at the east end, evidently much older than the main structure of which it now forms a part, and apparently the only existing remains of a former building occupying the site of the present edifice. This gable is in the ordinary style of the old timber-houses — a strong framework of oak, plaided with dark heavy beams of the same material, and the spaces filled in with a rough plaster formed of rushes, mud, and clay. The wood-work, though clearly of great antiquity, is still in a remarkable state of preservation. At a field's length from Great Nuthurst, and on the opposite side of the railway, is Little Nuthurst hall, which is rapidly disappearing under the combined efforts of time and modern innovation. The only remaining

portion of the old hall is interesting from the curious and rare examples of ornamental plaster-work which it exhibits. The mode of construction appears to have been the same as in the generality of half-timbered houses, laths nailed to a frame-work of oak, and coated with plaster: but here, instead of the wood-work remaining exposed, as is ordinarily the case, the whole is covered with mortar, stippled over, and studded with a curious four-leaved conical flower, in its parts not unlike the dog-tooth peculiar to the thirteenth century, with this exception, that the latter embellishment invariably consists of a number linked together and usually serving as an enrichment to a moulding, whilst in the present instance the flower is unconnected, forming an ornament complete in itself. There are also some other specimens of ornamentation in plaster still remaining. With the exception of that portion of the old mansion just alluded to, Little Nuthurst hall is of comparatively modern date, constructed of brick, and in its outward appearance presenting nothing worthy of observation.

The first thought that strikes the mind when contemplating the past fortunes of Moston is the degree of favour in which that township was held by our forefathers. Possessing, as it might seem, but few advantages in point of situation, the very names of its subdivisions — White Moss, Nuthurst Waste, Theile Moor, and Chadderton Waste — suggesting much of dreariness and discomfort, Moston enjoyed a reputation unequalled by all the other suburbs of Manchester, as the residence of families of distinction. Perhaps it attained its highest glory in the reign of Charles II., at which time we find seated here the Chethams of Nuthurst, the Lightbownes of Lightbowne hall, the Sandfords of Nuthurst (a branch of the family of that name seated at Thorpe Salvine in Yorkshire, and High Asbes in the parish of Ashton-under-Lyne), the Houghs of Hough hall, the Jenkinsons of Nuthurst; and the Shacklocks settled there as early as the reign of Henry VIII., whose name is perpetuated in Shacklock Green, now corrupted into Shackliffe or Shackerley Green, and who at first held their

lands by lease from the Radcliffes, earls of Sussex, themselves tenants of the lords of Manchester manor.

In 1655 there were in Moston twenty-three rate-payers, and the total rate collected for the half-year ending November 25th, was £8.17.7½; amongst whom were Mr. Thomas Cheetam £1.9.4, Mr. Robert Jenkinson £1.9.4, Mr. Shacklock £1.2.1, Mr. Robert Haulgh, and Mr. James Lightbowne. In the year 1852 the number of rate-payers was two hundred and eight, and the total amount of rate collected £468.17.9.

In 1692 the annual value of real property in Moston, as assessed to the land-tax, was £196.2.11; in 1815, as assessed to the county-rate £3430; in 1829 (to the same) £2960;⁽¹⁾ in 1841 (to the same) £5743; and in 1853 (to the same) £6446. In 1852 the annual value of property in the township rated for the poor was £7176.18.6.

The number of houses in Moston in 1774 was 80; families 82, consisting of five hundred and sixty-three individuals, of whom two hundred and forty-three were under the age of 15, fifty-nine above 50, thirty-one above 60, four above 70, and two above 80. In 1801 there were, houses 91, inhabitants 618; in 1811, inhabitants 614; in 1821, houses 94, inhabitants 593; in 1831, houses 111, inhabitants 615; in 1841, houses 127, inhabitants 671; in 1851, houses 186, inhabitants 904. In 1852 there were in the township one public-house and five beer-houses, two dye-works (Moston Mill and Dean Brook), one wadding manufactory (Moston Bottom), one colliery, one canal (the Rochdale Canal company), one railway (the Lancashire and Yorkshire). The wires of the Electric Telegraph company run through the township, and were in 1852 rated for the relief of the poor, the first assessment ever made in the United Kingdom on that description of property. In 1852 the number of county voters in Moston was thirty-eight.

Taking the superficial area of the township at 1271 acres (as returned in 1851) the land is thus divided: arable, meadow, and

⁽¹⁾ Moston was the only township in Manchester parish which had decreased in value between the years 1815 and 1829.

pasture land, 1100 acres; moors and waste land, 40 acres; woods and plantations, 131 acres. The following are the principal land-owners, with the extent of their several estates:

Trustees of the late Samuel Chetham Hilton,			
esquire (Moston hall, Great Nuthurst hall,	A.	B.	P.
Little Nuthurst hall, &c., estates).....	621	0	0
Mr. Joseph Bleackley (Lightbowne hall estate, &c.)	140	1	26
Samuel Taylor, esquire (Hough hall estate, &c.)	106	2	18
William Bradley Wainman, esquire	76	3	14
The Land Scheme company, New Moston	57	1	24
Charles Caryll Worsley, esquire	47	0	17
Joseph Jones and Richard Gould, esquires	35	0	20
Mr. David Taylor	32	2	34
Mrs. Mary Bailey	24	3	29
Mr. John Taylor.....	13	3	30

The total number of land-owners in the township is fifteen.

The estate at present in the possession of Mr. Wainman is remarkable as having been at one period the inheritance of the family of Syddall, one of whose members was executed at Manchester for rebellion in 1716. It was purchased by Mr. Richard Wainman, ancestor of the present owner, in or about the year 1745.

In January, 1850, a society designated "The Manchester Bridgewater Freehold Land Society" was organized in Manchester, having for its object the formation of one common fund by the united weekly payments of its members, and with the proceeds of such subscription the purchase of a tract of eligible building land to be divided into allotments and possessed by the several members, each of whom would thus obtain a freehold qualification as a county voter. Moston was selected as the arena for the society's experiment.

By Indenture dated March 6th, 1851, the trustees of the late Samuel Chetham Hilton, esquire, conveyed to Elijah Dixon, William Ricketts, and James Gaskell (representing the society) 57 statute acres of land, for which the sum of £2900 was paid to the

aforesaid trustees. To the tract of land thus purchased they gave the name "New Moston;" and having redeemed the land-tax and made a good approach (twelve yards wide) to the estate, they entered into contracts for making sewers and streets, which are to be completed during the present year. The total cost of the undertaking, including purchase-money, will be about £8000. The number of allotments is 230.

Moston, for purposes ecclesiastical, was anciently shared by unequal partition between the chapels of Blackley and Newton, of which the latter claimed the larger portion. It exercised the right of electing one of its own inhabitants every third year as warden for the chapel of Newton.

In common with every other hamlet in the parish, it was tributary to the mother church of Manchester from the time of its early foundation; but the commission of 1650, already alluded to, makes no return of the amount of tithe payable in that year. In 1701 the tithes of the township were leased to Mr. John Lightbowne for £13.10.0. In 1848 the amount of rent-charge in lieu of tithes received from Moston by the Dean and Chapter of Manchester was £100. In the reign of Edward VI., on the dissolution of the college in Manchester, the property of the said college, including the tithes, came into the king's possession. The tithes of Moston were leased by him to one Robert Bull, who, in the person of his assignee, Edward Williams, was cited in the year 1565 to appear in the Duchy court and defend himself against certain matters alleged against him by Robert Cocker the lessee of "Thomas Herle clerk, master or keeper, and the Fellows and Chaplains of Manchester college," in relation to the tithes of Moston and Blackley. The issue of the trial is not stated. The rapacity of Warden Herle in granting long prospective leases of the tithe, to commence on the expiration of leases then existing, was productive of serious injury to the revenues of the college, and led ultimately to his dismissal from the wardenship. In 1590 the Rev. Oliver Carter B.D. (one of the Fellows of the college) asserted the rights of Richard Ascrofte his brother-in-law, the then lessee of the Warden and

Fellows, in the Duchy court at Lancaster in a case involving the tithes of Moston and Blackley. The defendants were John Chetham and Henry Slade.

When, in the year 1814, the chapel of Newton was rebuilt, the cost of its re-erection was defrayed by a rate levied under the authority of two several acts of parliament passed in the 54th and 57th years of the reign of George III., which empowered the churchwardens to levy rates on all the rateable property in the townships of Newton, Failsworth, Moston, and Droylesden, thus including Moston within the limits of the reputed chapelry of Newton; but, as already stated, it is doubtful whether a specific district was ever assigned to any of the several ancient chapels in the parish, and the inhabitants of the suburbs too far removed from the mother church resorted to the chapel of ease nearest to them as convenience dictated. In 1837, united with Harpurhey and part of Collyhurst, Moston was formed into a separate ecclesiastical districts, and a church erected for the accommodation of its inhabitants. In 1844 a school was built in the township at a cost of £285, which expenditure was mainly defrayed by the National society and the Committee of council — the former contributing £100 and the latter £175. The site, including a small field adjoining, was given by Samuel Taylor, esquire. Its only endowment consists of a residence for the teacher, and the profits arising from the field or garden. It is used both as a Sunday and Day school. In 1853 the number of Sunday scholars on the books was 60, Day scholars 45. There is also a library attached.

The Wesleyans have a small school-room in the township which is likewise used as a chapel. They have a Sunday school, but no Day school.

The charities in the township are few and unimportant. In the year 1628 Nicholas Hartley left a legacy of £50, which was laid out in premises at Moston, the rents and profits to be applied towards the relief of the poor and aged in Manchester. This estate, which is in the hands of trustees, produces an annual income of about £15.15.0. It is dispensed in sums of from five shillings to

two shillings. The accounts are audited at the Collegiate church on the Easter Tuesday in each year.

By Indenture dated December 19th, 1689, John Gilliam of Newton, gentleman, conveys to Ralph Worsley and others, on trust, the sum of £20, given by the will of Elizabeth Chetham, to dispose of the profits towards the promotion of religious education amongst poor children in the townships of Moston and Newton until they can read the English Bible, and no longer. The £20 is still in the hands of trustees.

MOSTON OF MOSTON.

The most ancient family resident in the township would doubtless be that to whose members the place itself supplied a surname; but as this carries us back to a very remote period, none but the most incidental allusions are to be found.

The earliest reference to the family as yet met with has relation to one Radulphus de Moston, who lived in the reign of King John (1199 - 1216).

In the 5th Edward I. (1276,) the name of Richard de Moston occurs as witness to a confirmation of land to Deane church.

From an abstract of certain records in the Court of exchequer it appears that in the 30th Edward I. (1301 - 2,) Richard de Moston proved to the king, having previously reported the same by writ of Richard Hoghton, late sheriff of Lancashire, that his common pasture at Nuthurst had been unjustly trespassed on by Geoffrey de Chadderton, who had introduced more than his fair proportion of cattle.⁽¹⁾

From another abstract from the same source of a later date, the 3rd Edward II. (1309-10,) we learn that Alice de Moston was wife of the said Richard, and from Thomas de Grelle's charter of 1301 it appears that Hugh de Moston was his son. This latter individual is found in 1322 seised of 25 acres of waste land in Denton, which he held from the lord of the manor of Manchester.

(1) "Eodem modo mon[stravit] R. Ricūs de Moston q^d cum b're R. nup. vic' Lanc. detulisset de communi pastura sua in Nutehirst amensuranda quam Galfre de Chaderton injuste supon'avit &c." — *Abbreviatio Rotulorum Originalium*.

In the 25th Edward III. (1351 - 2,) John de Radclyffe the elder is entered as plaintiff in the Duchy court of Lancaster, in a suit against Hugh Toft and Alicia his wife deforciant, in respect of the property in Ashton-under-Lyne which William de Moston held. The issue is not recorded.

The name of William de Moston (probably the same person) occurs in a list of Lancashire gentry in the reign of Richard II. (1377 - 99,) who had attended a trial decided in favour of Robert le Grosvenor concerning his right to ancient coat armour.

In the Rent-roll of John de Assheton of Ashton-under-Lyne, dated 3rd Richard II. (1380,) amongst the free tenants "that make^a fine yearly for the making of the milne" were . . . the place of Richard of Moston in Audenshagh, 16d.; "the heir of Richard of Moston for his londes in Aldwinshaigh, 8s. 6d.," paid as follows: Richardus de Moston pro ten suo in Aldwinshagh, 9d. at the feast of the Annunciation; 9d. at the feast of St. John the Baptist; 9d. at the feast of St. Michael; 6d. at the feast of St. Martin; and 9d. at the feast of the Nativity.

In an enumeration of seat or rather form-holders in the Parish church of Ashton occurs the following entry: "At the first form upon the south side of Assheton kirk, Uxor hered. Henrici de Moston."⁽¹⁾

CHADDERTON OF NUTHURST.

Next after the Mostons in local influence, and scarcely their inferiors in antiquity of tenure, was the family of Chadderton, whose members derived their name from the township of Chadderton, which forms the northern boundary of Moston.

Galfridus de Trafford, younger son of Richard de Trafford (living about the year 1200), received from his father the manors of Chadderton and Foxdenton. This Geoffrey and his posterity thenceforward assumed the name of Chadderton.⁽²⁾

⁽¹⁾ From an old MS. formerly in the possession of Sir Ralph Assheton of Middleton; quoted in Corry's *History of Lancashire*, vol. ii. pp. 498, 510.

⁽²⁾ Pedigree of the Trafford family, Corry's *History of Lancashire*, vol. ii.

In the 9th Henry IV. (1408,) Geoffrey de Chadderton held the manor of Chadderton as tenant in chief of the king. From an abstract already given we find the family in 1301 at variance with their neighbours the Mostons, the matter in dispute being a right of pasture on the lands of Nuthurst, which afterwards became in part their property.

It is now impossible to fix the time of the family first acquiring an interest in Moston township, but the step which led to it was doubtless a marriage with an heiress of the Nuthursts of Nuthurst. This is shown by the arms borne by the Chaddertons, which Browne Willis thus gives: Arg. a chev. gu. between three § sab., on the chevron a mullet of the second. But this emblazonment, Cole (*MS.* vol. vii. p. 136) conceives to be a mistake: first, from the manuscript table in Queen's college differing from these arms; and secondly, because the same arms as are assigned to them on the said table are also appropriated to the name of Chadderton in a valuable manuscript book of heraldry in his possession, and which he copied from one belonging to King's college library, written by William Smith Rouge Dragon in 1604, and are: Gu. a cross bottony nowed or; second and third, Arg. a chevron gu. between three § sab. The mode of reconciling the seeming difference is to suppose that the Chaddertons quartered these latter bearings with their own family coat. From documents in the College of Arms it appears that these latter were the arms of Nuthurst of Nuthurst (a family of whom little is known), quartered by the Chaddertons in consequence of some matrimonial alliance now long forgotten, and subsequently adopted by the Chethams as representing both. Former heralds seem to have hesitated how to describe this device: in one book they are designated Horse-nails, in another Bleeding-fleams, and in a third Nut-hooks. Most probably they were intended for the latter, being what are termed canting arms, conveying an allusion to the name Nuthurst, that is, Nut-wood, and might be used by nut gatherers for the double purpose of pulling down a higher branch and of hanging the nut basket on a lower bough.⁽¹⁾

(1) Healey Evidences, Corry's *History of Lancashire*, vol. ii. pp. 599, 600.

In the 24th Henry VIII. (1532,) Edmund Chadderton commenced a suit in the Duchy court against Ralph Standish and others in respect of disputed right of common in Nuthurst Waste, Chadderton Waste, Oldham Waste, and Moston hamlet.

In the 6th Elizabeth (1563), Edmund Chadderton, claiming by inheritance, has a suit at Lancaster against John Chetham and Thomas Worrall. The dispute had reference to a claim, on the plaintiff's part, to a capital messuage, lands, rent-service, and appurtenances in Moston, and a moiety of the waste moor or common called Theile Moor or Nuthurst Waste.

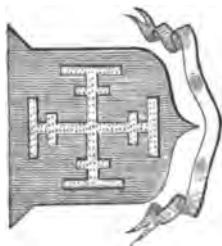
Of this family was William Chadderton D.D. Bishop of Chester, and afterwards Bishop of Lincoln, who was born at Nuthurst hall about the year 1540, the younger son of Edmund Chadderton of Nuthurst, gentleman, and Margaret Cliffe his wife. It is probable that he received his early education at the Grammar school of Manchester, being removed thence to Queen's college, Cambridge, where he graduated in Arts and became Fellow of his college (or, as Dr. Ormerod has it, of Christ's college). In 1567 he was chosen Margaret Professor of Divinity, and shortly afterwards became a Prebendary of Westminster. In 1568 he was elected President of Queen's college, Cambridge, and was appointed Archdeacon of York, receiving also in the same year a nomination as Chaplain to Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester. In November, 1569, he succeeded to the Regius Professorship of Divinity in the University of Cambridge. On the 16th of February, 1573, he was installed Prebendary of York, and soon afterwards was preferred to a stall in the Collegiate church of Southwell. In November, 1578, through the interest of the Earl of Leicester, he was created Bishop of Chester, and the following year was elected Warden of Manchester college, his dispensation to hold this latter preferment in commendam bearing date June 5th, 1579, in which year also he was included in the ecclesiastical commission for the counties of Lancaster and Chester, which led to his fixing his residence in Manchester. To his superintendence were committed the children of numerous families in Manchester and the neigh-

bourhood, and of others even from distant parts of the county, for the more effectual stemming the progress of popery, in conformity with the orders of Elizabeth and her council. On the 5th of April, 1595, having resigned the wardenship of Manchester, he was translated to the see of Lincoln, which he held until his death April 11th, 1608, a period of thirteen years. He was interred at Southoe, within a mile of his palace of Buckden.⁽¹⁾

Hollingworth describes him as a learned man and liberal, given to hospitality, and a more frequent preacher and baptizer than other Bishops of his time.⁽²⁾ He left by his wife Katharine, daughter of John Revell of London, an only daughter Joane, married to Sir Richard Brooke of Norton in the county of Chester, knight, whose only daughter Elizabeth, born in 1595, the wife of Torrel Joceline esquire, was remarkable for her piety and christian virtues, and favourably known as the author of "The Mother's Legacy to her unborn Child," a book written under the apprehension of a fatal termination to her approaching travail, which foreboding was unhappily realised; first published in 1624. George Chadderton of Nuthurst, the Bishop's elder brother, married Jane, the daughter of Edward Warren of Poynton in the county of Chester, esquire: the issue of this marriage was a son Edmund, elected a feoffee of the Manchester Grammar school in 1581, and two daughters, Dorothy and Emmeline. Edmund Chadderton married, but the name of his wife is unknown: their issue appears to have died in infancy, since all mention of the name in connexion with Moston ceases before the year 1600. The Bishop had also a sister Elizabeth, the wife of Robert Parker of Browsholme in the county of Lancaster, esquire, whose son Roger Parker, born in 1558, was, through his uncle's influence, advanced to the deanery of Chester.

(¹) Baines's *History of Lancashire*, vol. ii. pp. 356 - 8.

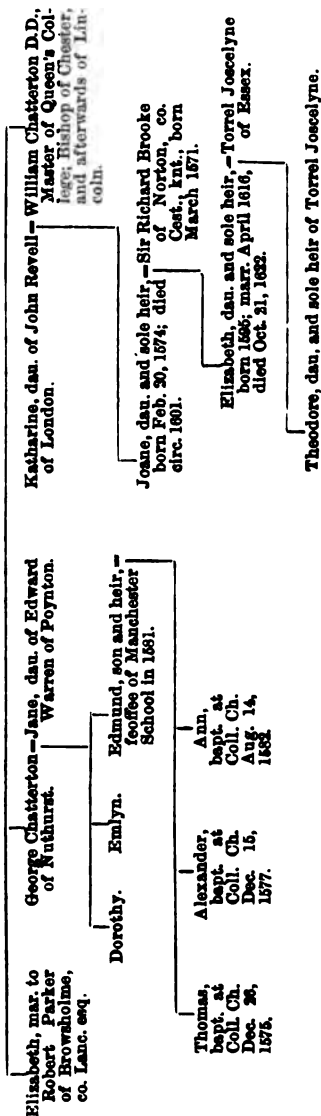
(²) *Mancuniensis*, p. 89.



Chadderton of Authurst.

Geoffrey Chadderton — dau. of

Edmund Chadderton — Margaret, dau. of
Cliffe, co. West.



CHETHAM OF NUTHURST.

The family of Chetham has long been associated with Manchester and its greatness, and has enjoyed a large amount of local influence. No fewer than six of its members have filled the office of High Sheriff of the county, viz., Geoffrey Chetham, 1259-62; Geoffrey Chetham, 1371; Humphrey Chetham, the founder, 1635, and again 1648; George Chetham of Turton, 1660; James Chetham of Smedley, 1730; and Samuel Chetham of Castleton, 1738.

At the Lancashire visitation of 1664 three pedigrees of the family were entered: first, Chetham of Chetham; second, Chetham of Nuthurst; and third, Chetham of Turton. They are all supposed to have descended from one common ancestor, of whom the lapse of time has left no traces. The arms entered at the visitation referred to disclose the fact that they all claimed descent from the Chadderton family; the crest borne alike by the three branches being a demi griffin segreant gules, charged on the breast with the peculiar cross of the coat of Chadderton, a cross potent crossed or. There is no pedigree of date sufficiently remote to show by direct statement the connexion of Chetham with Chadderton, that alliance having taken place probably at a date antecedent to any record now remaining in either family.

The Chethams of Nuthurst appear to have been considered the oldest line, since the arms bear no mark of filial distinction as do the others; Chetham of Turton is differenced by a crescent, while Chetham of Chetham has the distinction of a trefoil, no accustomed mark of filiation, but probably given with that view by Dugdale at his visitation, or so settled by some former herald.

Amongst the Harleian MSS., in the British museum (No. 1987 page 80), there is a marriage of John de Chetham, styled of Nuthurst, who lived in the reign of Henry V. (1413-1422), with Katharine, daughter of Ralph Bradshaw of Aspull;—and in the evidences of the descent of Healey of Healey, James Chetham, gentleman, was appointed to take seizen of lands on the 16th of November, 1424, in Honorusfield. These, with Ellen Chetham, (who, according to the descent of Assheton of Lever, is specified as

being the daughter of Geoffrey Chetham, esquire, and the wife of Adam Lever, esquire, of Great Lever,) it is conjectured were the children of the afore-named Geoffrey the sheriff; and the eldest son, John, to have been the father of Thomas Chetham of Nuthurst, esquire, who is named in the before-mentioned evidences of Healey, on the 14th of January, 1482, to award lands in Spotland.⁽¹⁾

This Thomas died seized of messuages, lands, and woods in Nuthurst, Butterworth, Middleton, Castleton, Crompton, &c., as appears by an Inquisition, post mortem, taken in the 20 Henry VII. (1505), leaving John Chetham his son and heir.

John Chetham of Nuthurst, esquire, son and heir of Thomas, married Margaret, daughter of Ellis Prestwich, esquire, of Hulme, near Manchester, as appears by the Harleian MS., No. 1549. He died in 1516, the Inquisition post mortem proving that fact being taken in the 7 Henry VIII.

This John left three children, two sons and one daughter: Thomas, the eldest son, who married Elizabeth, daughter of John Hopwood of Hopwood, esquire, (which Elizabeth appears, by the *Calendarium Placitorum* of the 1 Edward VI., to have been left a widow in 1547;) and Ellis, who married Jane, daughter of Richard Jakes of Middleton, gentleman—the latter being the progenitor of the Chethams of the county of Norfolk; Elizabeth, the daughter, was the wife of Thomas Birch, esquire, of Birch hall.

Thomas Chetham, esquire, the eldest son, had issue by Elizabeth Hopwood aforesaid two sons, John and Ralph, and two daughters, Elizabeth, the wife of Thomas (? John) Cudworth, gentleman, of Oldham, and Alice. He died, according to an Inquisition post mortem, taken the 38 Henry VIII., in 1546, leaving his eldest son, John Chetham, esquire, his heir.

John Chetham, esquire, of Nuthurst, the eldest son and heir of Thomas, was appointed in 1556 one of the feoffees of the Manchester school. It is not known whom he married, but it appears that he died in 1573, seized of the Nuthurst and other estates,

(¹) *Foundations in Manchester*, vol. iii., pp. 127, 128.

leaving Henry Chetham his son and heir. Of Ralph, the second son, nothing is known.

Henry Chetham of Nuthurst, esquire, son and heir of John, died in 1576, only three years after the death of his father, and was certified by an Inquisition post mortem, of the 19 Elizabeth, to be seized of the same Nuthurst, Butterworth, Middleton, Castleton, and Crompton estates, and others in Manchester. He left James Chetham, esquire, his son (according to other authorities, his brother) and heir.

James Chetham of Nuthurst, esquire, was aged twenty-one years in the 21 Elizabeth (1578), as appears by a *probatio ætatis*, then returned. He was appointed a feoffee of the Manchester school in 1581, and died in 1615, (Inquisition post mortem, 13 James I.,) leaving Thomas Chetham his son and heir, and seven daughters: Isabel, wife of George Chetham; Alice, wife of Adam Holland, junior; Mary, wife of William Bowcher, junior; Sarah, Martha, Ann, and Elizabeth unmarried in 1613.

Thomas Chetham of Nuthurst, esquire, son and heir of James Chetham aforesaid, lived in the reigns of Charles I. and II. He granted a certificate of the descent of Humphrey Chetham, the founder, from the house of Nuthurst in 1635. He married twice, first, Mary, daughter of Francis Forster of Watling Street in the county of Salop, gentleman, who died in March, 1625, having had issue, Francis, born September, 1622, George, Mary (married to Jonathan Chadwick, M.D., of Chadwick in the county of Lancaster), and John (settled at Linton in the county of Cambridge); and secondly, Susan, daughter of Sir William Davenport of Bramhall in the county of Chester, by whom he had issue, William, Dorothy, Mary, and Susan. He died in 1657, and was succeeded by Francis Chetham of Nuthurst, esquire, his son and heir.

Francis Chetham of Nuthurst, esquire, married Mary, daughter of John Hopwood of Hopwood in the county of Lancaster, gentleman, and had issue John Chetham of Nuthurst, esquire, who was buried at the Collegiate church of Manchester December 11th, 1694, having had issue a son and a daughter.

Here a break occurs in the descent, caused probably by the extinction of the parent stem of the family, and the Nuthurst estate passed to one of the branches.

Edward Chetham, who, in the inscription on his tomb in the Collegiate church, is described as of Nuthurst, the younger son but eventually heir of Edward Chetham of Smedley, at his decease in 1714 was found seized of the Nuthurst estate. He was succeeded by his only son Edward, born in 1689, in whom as the last heir male of the family centred the entire estates of the Chethams. He died unmarried and intestate in 1769.

By Partition-deed dated October 31st, 1770, the extensive estates of the family were shared between Alice and Mary, his sisters, the daughters and coheiresses of Edward Chetham of Nuthurst, esquire; the Moston property falling to the lot of Mary, the younger sister. She became the wife of Samuel Clowes of Chad-dock in the county of Lancaster, esquire, by whom she had two sons and one daughter, ~~Ann, wife of Thomas Cross of Shaw Hill in the county of Lancaster, esquire. The issue of this marriage was a daughter Ann, who in 1781 became the wife of James Hilton of Pennington, esquire. By this marriage the Moston property of the Chethams was conveyed to the Hiltons.~~

ERRATA.

~~Page 9, line 10, for aîre, read air.~~

~~Page 9, line 21, for metheglin, read methoglin.~~

~~Page 111, line 14, for 1604, read 1602.~~

~~Page 141, line 17, for districts, read district.~~

~~Page 151, line 17, for Ann, wife of Thomas Cross conveyed to the Hiltons, read Mary, wife of Samuel Hilton of Pennington, esquire, and afterwards of Thomas Cross of Shaw Hill, co. Lanc., esquire. The issue of the former marriage was two sons, James Hilton who succeeded to the Nuthurst estate of the Chetham family under the will of his maternal grandmother, Mary, the wife of Samuel Clowes and sister and coheiress of Edward Chetham the last heir male of that ancient family, and John Hilton who in like manner inherited the Crumpsall estate of the Chethams.~~

since taken the name of Ford), William Legh Clowes esquire, Sir George Scovell, and Henry Hesketh esquire, upon trust, that they the said trustees should with all convenient speed, after his decease, absolutely sell and convert into money all his real estates whatsoever, together or in such parcels as to his said trustees should seem most beneficial. Mr. Hilton died in January 1835, since which time, though occasional sales have taken place, the Moston estate has suffered little abridgment, one half of the entire township being still vested in the trustees of the testator.

By his will dated the last day of January, 1613, James Chetham of Nuthurst in the county of Lancaster, gentleman, beinge in good healthe and p'fect memorie (the Lord be prayed), beinge mynded (by God's assistance) to sett suche landes and goodes in order as the Lord in mercy hathe bestowed upon him, for the avoydinge of ffuter troble and inconvenience, doth proceede to make this his last Will and Testamente.

He commends his soul to God, and his body to be buried in the Parish church of Manchester where his ancestors are buried, or where it shall please God to appoint the same.

And as touching the disposing of his lands his will is, that all his lands, tenements, and hereditaments shall be divided into three equal parts — that is to wit, these several parts and portions of his capital messuage called Nuthurst, and these closes, fields, and parcels of lands, being parcels of the demesne lands appertaining to the same, and hereafter particularly expressed — that is to wit, the Kitchen, the Lower house, the Dene house, and all the rest of the New building, as well below as above the New barn, with the cow-house adjoining to the same, the Kilne, and the Water corn milne, together with the suit and mulcture belonging thereunto, with one Garden, and the Orchard and Croft, and The Great Copthorn Hill, The Little Copthorn Hill, The Six Acre, The Five Acre, and all the Syddgreaves, and all these messuages and tenements in Nuthurst aforesaid, in the several occupations of Robert Ogden, Thomas Mellor, George Wyrall, William Travys, Hugh Kempe, Richard Hill, Isabel Jackson, widow, and Katharine Jackson, widow, together

with the yearly rent of forty-one shillings issuing out of one messuage and tenement commonly called floshe howses, within the parish of Ratchdall, shall be and remain unto Margerie Chetham, now his wife, for and during the term of her natural life, in lieu of her jointure and dowry. And one other third part of his said messuages, &c.—that is to wit, the Hall, the Parlour, two chambers over the parlour, and all the old buildings adjoining the Kitchen, the one long-slated Barn, with two cowhouses adjoining upon either end of the said barn, one other Bay to lay in hay, and one cowhouse under the same, one Stable, with two little chambers adjoining to the end thereof, the great Archeshawe, the meadow thereunto adjoining, the three Pyncrofts, with the woodlands thereunto belonging, the Rysshie field, the Blackarne, and also one messuage and tenement in Crompton, and also three other messuages in Crompton aforesaid, with all free rent and rent charges issuing out of certain lands in Balderston, Ashworth, and Moston, shall be and remain unto Thomas Chetham, his son and heir apparent, for and until such times as he shall accomplish the age of twenty-one years. The other third part, that is the Four acre, with parcel of land called the Rysshes adjoining the said Four acre, and one other parcel of land called the Roughe hey, adjoining to the Meyrediche, and also adjoining unto Thomas Whittycar his new marled close, one other meadow at the back of the garden, one other parcel of land called the Intach, and one meadow lying at the back of the Orchard, and also one close, and now ffeied to be marled, adjoining to the ground of Hugh Kemp, and the same Turf moss or Rowmes as are now enclosed, and the rent of all the said Rowmes belonging to him, the said James Chetham, and also several messuages and tenements (which he here describes) in Crompton, and also the issues and profits, setting and letting, of “one cole myne,” commonly called and known by the name of Lenardyne, and with liberty to set down more shaft or shafts, and to dig and mine for the finding and getting of coals, shall be and remain to his executors, for and towards the payment of his debts, and for the education, advancement, and preferment of Sarah, Martha, Ann, and

Elizabeth Chetham, his daughters, for and until they shall have severally received the sum of forty pounds apiece. And further he directs that his executors hereafter named shall have, hold, possess, and enjoy the said last-mentioned third part of his said messuages, &c., to them, formerly limited from and immediately after that they shall have levied and received, out of the issues and profits of the said third part, the sum of one hundred and three score pounds more, for and towards the advancement and preferment of his said four younger daughters, for and until such time as they, or the survivor of them, shall have levied, taken, and received, out of the issues and profits of the said third part, the full sum of four score pounds more, for and towards the payment of his debts, unless that Thomas Chetham, his son and heir, will pay the said sum of four score pounds unto such person or persons as he (testator) shall happen to be indebted to at the time of his decease, if his said debts happen to amount to so much.

And from and after the said particular estates ended then he devises all his said messuages, lands, &c., unto the said Thomas Chetham, his son and heir-apparent, and to the heirs male of his body, lawfully to be begotten; and for default of such issue, then he gives and devises all his said messuages, &c., to George Chetham his son-in-law, and to his heirs male upon the body of Isabel, now his wife, and daughter of him, the said James Chetham, upon condition that the said George Chetham, and his heirs as aforesaid, within one year next after they shall enjoy the said messuages, &c., shall pay unto his (testator's) six daughters, to wit, Alice, the now wife of Adam Holland the younger, Mary, the now wife of William Bowcher the younger, Sarah, Martha, Ann and Elizabeth Chetham, the sum of six hundred pounds; and in default of this, he gives the estate to the right heirs of him, the said James Chetham, for ever.

And as touching the disposition of his goods and chattels, he directs his funeral expenses to be paid out of the proceeds thereof before any division be made, and then that the residue be divided into three equal parts: one-third he gives to Margerie his wife, to her proper use and behoof; one-third to his four younger daughters,



Cheetham of Nuthurst.

John Cheetham of Nuthurst, — Katharine, dau. of Ralph Bradshaw
1422. temp. Henry V. (1413.)
of Aspall.

Thomas Cheetham of Nuthurst, —
Inquis. p. m. 20 Henry VII.
(1506.)

John Cheetham of Nuthurst, — Margaret, dau. of
born 1470. Inquis. p. m. 7 Ellis Prestwich
Henry VIII. (1518.) of Hulme.

Thomas Cheetham of Nuthurst, — Elizabeth, dau. of John Ellis Cheetham, mar. Jane, dau.
born 1460. Inquis. p. m. 30 Hopwood of Hopwood, of Richard Jakes of Middle-
Henry VIII. (1546.) and widow of Alex. ton, gent.
auder Levett.

Elizabeth Cheetham, wife
of Thomas Birch of
Birch Hall, co. Lanc.,
esq.

a quo
Cheetham of Norfolk.

John Cheetham, born 1522; — Isabel, dau. of
bur. at Coll. Ch. Man- Bur. at Coll. Ch. Man-
chester Dec. 7, 1573. In- chester Jan. 6, 1566-7.
quis. p. m. 16 Elizabeth (1573).

Ralph Cheetham. Elizabeth Cheetham, wife of
John Cudworth of Wer-
neth, gent. Alice Cheetham.

Henry Cheetham, born 1552,
died unmarried. Inquis.
p. m. 19 Elizabeth (1576).

Ann Cheetham.

James Cheetham of Nuthurst, — Margaret, dau. of Ralph Cudworth
born 1567, made proof of of Werneth, gent.

Isabel Cheetham, Alice Cheetham, Mary Cheetham, Mary, dau. of Francis — Thomas Cheetham — Susanah, dau.
wife of George wife of Adam wife of Wm. Forster of Walling- of Nuthurst, Sarah Cheetham. Martha Cheetham.
Cheetham. Holland. Howcher. street, co. Saop; died Sept. 3, Ann Cheetham. Elizabeth Cheetham.
bur. at Coll. Ch. Dec. 11, 1604.

Francis Cheetham — Mary, dau. of John George Cheetham. Mary Cheetham, wife of
of Nuthurst, Hopwood of Hop- Jonathan Chadwick
born Sept. 1632. wood. Cheetham. settled at Lin-
ton, co. Camb.

John Cheetham of Nuthurst, —
bur. at Coll. Ch. Dec. 11, married Mary,
1604. July 17, 1608; died
Coll. Ch. dau. of
Fischby. —

John Cheetham, John Cheetham,
settled at Lin-
ton, co. Camb.
married Mary,
dau. of
Fischby. —
John.
Thomas.
George.

John Cheetham of Nuthurst,
bur. at Coll. Ch. Jan. 10, 1608.
Grace Cheetham, bur.
at Coll. Ch. Sept. 24,
1608.

William. Dorothy. Mary. Susan.

Sarah, Mary, Ann, and Elizabeth Chetham, equally to be divided; and as to the third part, he gives and bequeaths to his said son, Thomas Chetham, "all the seeling or waynscott and glasse belonginge, sett, or beinge wthin or about his said capital messuage called Nuthurst hall," together with such other heir-looms as are set down in one indenture or schedule to this his last will annexed; and the rest of this third part he gives to his said daughters, Sarah, Martha, and Elizabeth Chetham, equally to be divided.

Also it is his will that his loving wife, Margerie Chetham, should permit and suffer his sister, Ann Chetham, to have house-room for herself so long as she keep herself unmarried, and will accept of the same.

He names as his executors his loving wife, Margerie Chetham, and his loving tenant, William Taylor; and he desires his loving brothers-in-law, John Cudworth and Edward Shacklock, gentlemen, to be overseers. Witnesses, Nicholas Kenyon, Robert Ogden, John Ogden, and Thomas Chetham. Proved at Chester, January 24th, 1615.

The inventory taken at his decease returns the value of his "goods and chattels" at £382.5.4. Imp. in ready money, £14.5.8. It. three geldings and two mares, £24. It. seventeen kine and heifers, £60. It. two bulls and six twinters, £20. It. nine calves and one colt, £15. It. in Otes, fifty sceves, at 16s. the sceve, £40. It. in hay, forty loades, £10. It. in linen of all sorts, £15.8.0. It. in pewter, £4.10.6. It. in plate, £9. Owing to him by Mr. Edmund Chadderton, for slate, lime, &c., thirty shillings. Owing to him by Mr. Voluntyne Haulghe, for six loades of turves, eight shillings.

JENKINSON OF NUTHURST.

Early in the seventeenth century a family of some note named Jenkinson was seated at Nuthurst, residing probably in the house then recently occupied by the Chaddertons, a family at that time either extinct or elsewhere removed.

Nathan Jenkinson of Nuthurst, gentleman, was buried, as ap-

pears from the registers of Manchester Cathedral, September 3rd, 1687, and his widow, Alice, May 19th, 1645. They had a son, Robert, also described as of Nuthurst, and buried July 26th, 1654, whose widow, Frances, died in January, 1651-2; and also three daughters, Mary, Hannah, and Ruth, the first of whom was buried at the Collegiate church, Manchester, May 7th, 1642. The family is included by Hollingworth in his list of Manchester gentry in or about the year 1660, and was at that time associated with Nuthurst. Later entries in the Cathedral registers give the dates of the baptism of Nathan Jenkinson and Robert Jenkinson, sons of Robert Jenkinson of Manchester, in the years 1668 and 1670 respectively.

By his Will dated July 28th, 1687, Nathan Jenkinson, being of good and perfect memory, praised be God therefore, makes and ordains this his last Will and Testament. He commits his soul to Almighty God, and directs his body to be interred in the parish church of Manchester, or elsewhere as the Lord shall appoint it. His debts and funeral expenses to be defrayed out of his entire estate. And as to the rest of his goods, and debts owing to him, he directs that they shall be divided into three equal parts; one of which he gives to Alice, his wife, as of right to her belonging; a second part he gives to his children, out of which he orders the payment of twelve pence to his son Robert, in lieu and full satisfaction of his child's part and portion of all his goods whatsoever; and for the rest of this part, and also of that third part which belongs unto himself, he gives it to his three daughters, Mary Jenkinson, Hannah Jenkinson, and Ruth Jenkinson, equally to be divided, to be paid to them on reaching the age of twenty-one years. And because that it is his mind that his daughters shall have their portions made up five hundred pounds to every one of them, (if it will extend no further,) therefore his will is, that Alice his wife shall have, hold, occupy, and enjoy all his lands and hereditaments which are now in his tenure and occupation, and also shall receive and take all the rents, boons, hariots, and services, and all other benefits of and from all and every tenant belonging

to him in Nuthurst and Failsworth, for and until his son Robert shall attain the age of twenty-one years, paying four score pounds a year during the said term, and shall pay the same to every one of them as she shall accomplish the age of twenty-one years. And after his son shall have attained the age of twenty-one, his said son shall then pay to Alice his (testator's) wife five hundred pounds, before he shall enjoy any of his land whatsoever; provided always, that if he do not obtain so much money by marriage as that he be well able to pay the aforesaid sum, then that his (testator's) wife, Alice, shall have, occupy, and enjoy all his aforesaid lands whatsoever, for the term of six years; and the said sum of five hundred pounds, so paid or raised of the land, to be used by her for the good and benefit of his three daughters as abovesaid, and to be received by them when they shall come to the age of twenty-one. And furthermore, if it should so happen that his said wife should marry herself to any person before all his children are twenty-one years of age, then he entreats his well-beloved in Christ, John Gilliam of Newton, gentleman, and Gilbert Lord and Lawrence Gaskell of Heaton Rhodes, yeomen, to call her to reckoning for the portions of so many as she hath not paid, and to take good security for the payment of it.

The tuition and government of his children he commits wholly to his wife, until they attain the age of twenty-one, entreating her to do her best endeavour to bring them up in the fear of the Lord. He appoints Alice his wife sole executrix of his will, and Robert Baguley and Gilbert Lord, yeomen, overseers to see it fulfilled. Witnesses, Adam Baguley, Gilbert Lord, John Gaskell, John Cudworth. Proved at Chester, October 26th, 1638.

The inventory taken at his death returns his goods and chattels at £557.17.4. The valuation includes "Imp. in ten Kine, 10^{li} 00^s 00^d. It. in Corne, 80^{li} 00^s 00^d. It. in ffive Horses, 24^{li} 00^s 00^d. It. in Linnens, Pullens, Butter, and Cheese, 80^{li} 00^s 00^d. It. in Plate, Pewter, and other things in the Buttery, 14^{li} 02^s 04^d. It. in Bookes, 01^{li} 08^s 08^d. It. in his Apparels, 10^{li} 00^s 00^d. It in Debts owing to the decedent, 238^{li} 05^s 04^d."

His residence, as already stated, is supposed to have been the house then recently vacated by the Chaddertons. It contained, amongst others, the following apartments: The Lady Chamber, The Clock Chamber, The Bishop's Chamber, The Great Chamber, The Study, The Little Parlour, The Chamber over the Hall, &c.

SANDFORD OF NUTHURST.

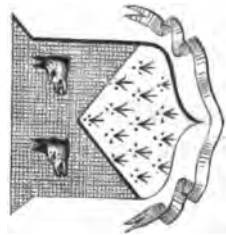
In the reign of Charles II. a part of Nuthurst was in the possession of the Sandford family, who for two generations made it their residence. They were in direct descent from the Sandfords of Thorpe Salvine in the county of York, and more recently of High Ashes in the parish of Ashton-under-Lyne. The Sandfords derived the manor of Thorpe Salvine in marriage about the reign of Edward III., and were the immediate successors of the local family of Salvin. Whilst resident there they endowed a chantry priest in their parish church.

Hercy Sandford, the last of the family seated there, married, May 13th 1565, Margaret, daughter of Philip Copley of Sprotborough, in the county of York, esquire, and granddaughter of Sir William Copley. He had issue Bryan, baptized at Sprotborough in March 1566, who died an infant during his father's lifetime, and three daughters.⁽¹⁾

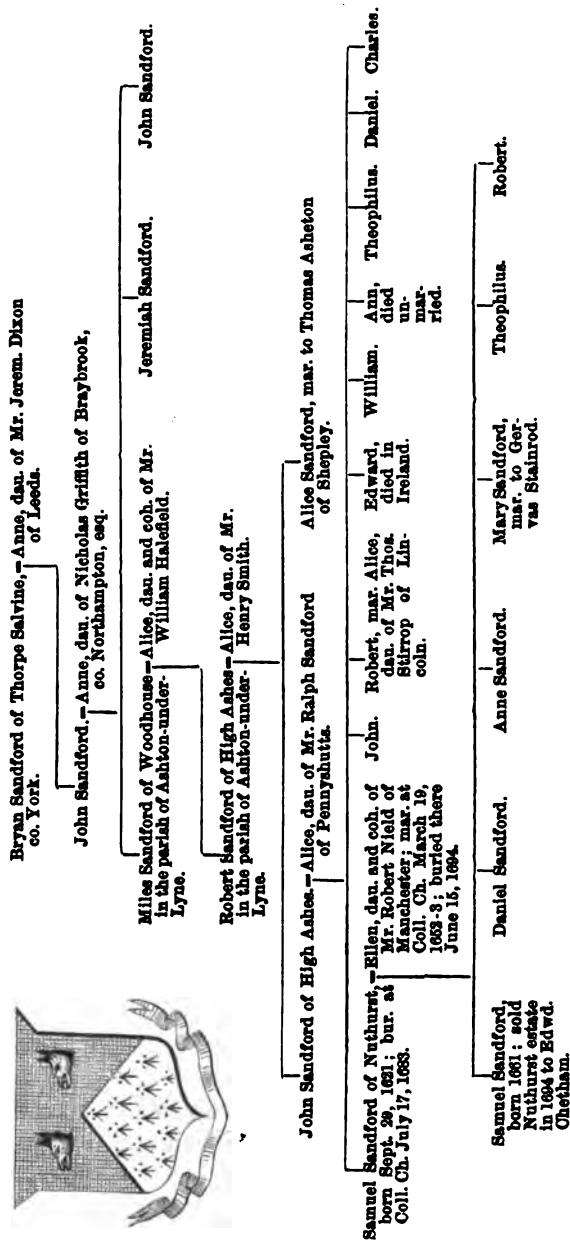
In 1422 John Sandford held a great part of Audenshaw in the parish of Ashton-under-Lyne, and from him (according to Baines, whose meaning however is not very clear) the hall descended in twelve generations to John Sandford, who with his two brothers lost a large portion of their estates by their adherence to the royal cause in the civil wars of the fifteenth century.

High Ashes in the same parish was also for several generations the residence of the Sandfords, descendants of Sandford of Thorpe Salvine, and ancestors of Sandford of Nuthurst. High Ash was a fine old building said to have been erected in 1444, consisting of large and spacious rooms wainscoted and panelled, unquestionably

⁽¹⁾ Hunter's *History and Topography of the Deanery of Doncaster*, vol. i. pp. 309-318.



Sandford of Nuthurst.



the residence of a family of distinction, for on removing the several coats of plaster from the walls in 1814, when the house was taken down, a number of paintings of figures as large as life were found in excellent preservation, and at the head of the apartment were the arms of Henry VI. richly emblazoned.⁽¹⁾

Samuel Sandford, the first of the family resident at Nuthurst, was the son of John Sandford of High Ashes, and Alice his wife, daughter of Mr. Ralph Sandford of Pennyshutts. He married in 1652 Ellen, daughter and coheiress of Mr. Robert Nield of Manchester, and had issue four sons and two daughters. His eldest son Samuel, born in 1661, sold the Nuthurst estate to the Chetham family in 1694.

By his Will dated July 13th, 1683, Samuel Sandford of Nuthurst, being sick in body but of sound and perfect memory, commends his soul to God, and leaves his body to be buried in such decent and Christian manner as his executors shall determine. — And as touching and concerning such worldly estate as God of his infinite goodness hath bestowed upon him, he disposes of it as follows: First, he directs that his debts and funeral expenses, charges and legacies, shall be paid out of his whole personal estate (all his silver plate and linen of what kind soever, and his best beds, and all the goods and furniture in the hall chamber at Nuthurst, which he hereby gives and bequeaths unto Ellen his now wife, to be by her disposed of at her discretion amongst his children, only excepted); and if this should be insufficient to satisfy the just demands of his creditors, legacies, &c., then he bequeaths to his executors all that his capital messuage or dwelling-house called Nuthurst, situate, lying and being in Moston, and also all his demesne and other lands, rents, reversions, &c., and also all that his messuage and those his lands in Failsworth, and also all his lands, &c., in Manchester or elsewhere, to be sold by his executors for the payment and satisfaction of all such debts, &c.

All the lands, &c., in Manchester, which he holds in right of Ellen his wife, and all that messuage and the dole thereunto be-

⁽¹⁾ Baines's *History of Lancashire*, vol. ii. p. 555.

longing, with the gardens, &c., situate in Deansgate in Manchester, in the several holdings or occupations of James Ratcliffe, gentleman, John Lister, and John Carrington, he bequeaths to Ellen his said wife, for her natural life, and after her decease to be disposed of amongst his children.

And of all the residue of all his other lands, tenements, &c., he gives one-third unto Ellen his said wife, for her life, for and in lieu of her jointure and dower. The overplus of the monies so to be raised by such sale, after his debts, legacies, and funeral expenses paid, to be laid out in the purchase of some lands, tenements, &c., for the use of his son Samuel, his heirs and assigns, for ever; provided always, that if his son Samuel, his executors, administrators, or assigns, shall pay unto Gervas Stainrod the sum of £200, being a portion due unto him with his (testator's) daughter Mary, his now wife, with interest thereof, within six months of his (testator's) decease; and also to his executors the sum of three score and ten pounds, within six months after his decease, for the binding of his son Daniel apprentice to such trade as his executors shall think fit; and also to his sons Theophilus, Robert, and Daniel, each of them £200, when they shall respectively attain the age of twenty-one years; and also any just debts which he (testator) may owe, the which his personal estate shall not extend to pay, within three years after his decease. To his son Robert he gives a yearly sum of six pounds, to maintain him with clothes during the term of his apprenticeship.

He directs that if his son Samuel shall fail in the performance of the several things enjoined, that then in the meantime, and until such debts, charge, &c., be paid, his son Samuel shall only receive, out of his said real estate, the sum of £20 per annum.

He desires his executors to reimburse themselves out of his estate for any cost or charge to which they may be subject.

He appoints as his executors Ellen his wife, and his son-in-law, Gervas Stainrod. Witnesses, Samuel Leech, John Bradshaw, and John Byron. Proved at Chester, June 19th, 1684.

By a codicil to his Will he gives to Ellen his wife all the goods

in her closet and the great bible in the hall, and to his son Samuel all the rest of his books.

From the inventory taken at his decease it appears that his goods and chattels were valued at £426.8.6.

The above abstract is taken from a certified copy of Mr. Samuel Sandford's Will in the registry at Chester — the original having been entrusted to Ellen Sandford, widow of the testator, who, by a Bond dated May 6th, 1687, pledges herself under a fine of £1000 to restore the original will to the public registry, on or before November 26th of the same year, safe, uncanceled, and undefaced,— the original having been required by the said Ellen "in order and upon occasion to be produced and used by witnesses, (in perpetuum rei memoriam,) in his Majesty's Court of Chancery, held at Preston for the county palatine of Lancaster."

LIGHTBOWNE OF MANCHESTER.

The founder of this family was one James Lightbowne, a successful tradesman of Manchester, who died in 1621, leaving, besides other children, two sons, John and James, and a daughter, Ann, afterwards wife of Thomas Minshull, apothecary, of Manchester, (a younger son of Richard Minshull of Wistaston, county of Chester, esquire,) who in 1644 purchased the Chorlton hall estate, and became the founder of the branch of the Minshulls settled in Manchester.

Of these sons, John was educated for the law, and became a bencher of Gray's Inn. He married in 1643 Elizabeth, daughter of William Lever of Kersall, gentleman, and sister to the wives of Dr. Bridgeman dean of Chester, Reginald Egerton, esquire, of Shaw, Ferdinando Stanley of Broughton, esquire, and Oswald Mosley of Manchester, esquire.

At his death in 1667, his estates devolved upon his daughter and sole heiress, Elizabeth, married in 1663-4 to Francis Lindley, barrister-at-law, of Gray's Inn.⁽¹⁾ Mr. Lindley died in 1668-9,

⁽¹⁾ Their eldest child was born in 1665, and in recording its baptism the registers of

and his widow afterwards became the wife of Edward Downes of Shrigley, county Chester, esquire. In 1647 Mr. Lightbowne was elected a feoffee of the Manchester Grammar school; and in 1651 was named a supervisor of the will of the celebrated Humphrey Chetham, with whom through life he had been on terms of close intimacy, receiving also as a "loving friend" of the testator a legacy of £50. In 1662 arms were granted to John and James Lightbowne of Manchester, by Sir William Dugdale, Norroy king-at-arms; and in 1664, at the visitation of the same herald, the brothers entered a short pedigree of the family.

By his Will dated July 13th, 1664, John Lightbowne, who is therein styled of Manchester in the county of Lancaster, esquire, commends his soul to God, and leaves his body to be interred in the east end of the parish church of Manchester, betwixt the upper end of the quire and Mr. Chetham's chapel, under a stone laid upon his late father's grave. And as touching the disposition of all such lands, goods, and chattels, real and personal estates, which God hath of his goodness bestowed upon him, he thus disposes of them: First: he gives to Elizabeth his loving wife all his messuages, lands, and tenements for and during her natural life, saving that his will and mind is, that his son-in-law, Francis Lindley, esquire, and his wife, Elizabeth, testator's daughter, shall and may have the moiety of the messuage and tenement wherein testator now inhabits, only for their own habitation and of their servants and family during his (testator's) wife's life time, and after her decease then he gives and devises the same messuage and tenement to his said daughter and her heirs, and the remainder thereof to his (testator's) right heirs. And further his will and mind is, that his funeral charges, which he desires may not exceed the sum of two hundred pounds, (the mourning apparel which shall be worn

the Collegiate church contain the following remarkable notification: "Baptism, July 6, 1665, Elizabeth, daughter to Francis Lyndley of Manchester, esquire, whose mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, and grandmother's grandmother, were all born, and *are now living*, in this parish."

at his decease being part thereof,) and his debts, which are few, and little or none, shall be paid out of his entire goods and personal estate, viz.: £1500 which he is bound to pay unto his son-in-law and daughter Lindley; and for the £500 more which he is bound to pay unto them after his and his wife's decease, he discharges his personal estate of and from the payment thereof, because he gives and leaves them lands of great value according to the agreement between himself and his son-in-law. And after his debts and funeral expenses paid, he gives to his said son-in-law his best gown and plush cloak and all his law books, saving that he desires him to give to his (testator's) nephew, James Lightbowne, such law books as his said son hath already and can well spare; and he entreats his said son to be useful and helpful to his said nephew in his studies and practice when he comes to it; and he gives unto his said daughter one hundred pounds.

To the poor of Manchester he gives ten pounds; and to the poor of Salford, Kersall, and Broughton, five pounds; and to the poor of the town of Bolton (his native place), five pounds, whereof the sum of three pounds given unto him by his uncle Edmund Nicholson, esquire, deceased, to pay unto one Rayner's children of Bolton parish or Deane parish, and which he (testator) could never yet find, shall be part; and he desires that the same sum of ten pounds, and two sums of five pounds, shall be disposed of by his executors and overseers hereinafter named, and such friends, officers, or others as they shall think fit to take to their assistance, to and amongst the poor people of the same places respectively — care being taken to give it amongst the most honest, aged, impotent, and needy people, and especially to householders.

And his will and mind is that his wife and his mother-in-law Mrs. Lever, and his grandmother Kenyon, and his said son and daughter, and his brother James Lightbowne, and his brothers-in-law Dr. Bridgeman, Leonard Egerton esquire, John Assheton esquire, Mr. Thomas Minshull, Mr. Thomas Bacon, and Mr. Joseph Worden and their wives, shall have mourning for him to

wear at his funeral, to wit: the men cloth for mourning cloaks, and the women stuff for mourning gowns. And he gives to his brother Stanley cloth to be a mourning cloak for him; and to his sister Langton stuff to be her a gown to wear at his funeral. And his will is that all such of his servants as his wife shall think fitting shall have mourning apparel to wear for him at his funeral. And he gives to Mr. Heyrick (warden of Manchester) and Mr. Newcome (minister of Manchester) forty shillings a piece, and to his cousin Mr. Richardson twenty shillings; and he desires Mr. Heyrick (if he be in health and at home) to preach at his funeral, and he gives him a mourning cloak if he do so. To his servant Nathan Leech he gives five pounds and a mourning cloak, if he be his servant at the time of his decease, and to his servant Ralph Heaton a similar bequest on like conditions; and he desires his wife to give them such draughts and presidents as she and his son Lindley shall think fit. And all the rest and residue of his said goods and chattels and personal estate (except leases for years and interests in land) he wholly bequeaths unto his dear and loving wife, Elizabeth Lightbowne, in lieu and recompense of her widow's portion, together with such monies as she hath of her own, not doubting but that she will be kind unto his said son and daughter and their children, if it please God to bless them with any whilst she liveth, and not doubting but she will be content with the leases he has made of some of his lands, and the sale of part thereof, to Mr. Heye and his heirs, according to her promise unto him made.

He names as his executrix his dear and loving wife, and desires his son-in-law and his brothers James Lightbowne and Thomas Minshull to be overseers thereof, and to assist his wife in the execution of this his will. Witnesses: Joseph Weeder, Nathan Leech, Ralph Heaton. Proved at Chester March 26th, 1668.

The Inventory made at his decease of his household goods, &c., indicates him to have been a man of very considerable means, and accustomed to live in ease and affluence.

The furniture in "The Great Parlor" was valued at £38.10.0, and included the following articles :

A grate Table	02 00 00
A Turkie Carpett sett worke	08 00 00
17 yards of Greene Cloth for Carpetts ...	04 00 00
1 Greene Cloth Chaire	01 00 00
1 Coache Chaire, 2 Arme Chaires, and 12 Chaires w th backs, all covered with Rusha leather	08 10 00
6 ould backstooles covered with leather...	01 04 00
10 Coates of Armes in fframes	02 10 00
9 Mappes in fframes.....	00 19 00
Mrs. Lever's picture	01 10 00
Mrs. Lindley's picture.....	02 00 00
1 Turneing Deske	00 10 00
1 Chesse Board and Men ..	00 05 00
In "The Study:"	
Lawe Bookes	22 00 00
Divinity Bookes	18 00 00
1 Large Writeing Desk, a large Table and Drawers under it, and Seelinge about it... ..	08 00 00
In "The Closet:"	
2 Silver Boxes, a Silver Inkhorne, a Beard brush the case of Silver, a tobacco stopper, and a silver hooke	01 10 00
1 Gould Signett	01 06 00
1 Silver Watch.	08 00 00
2 Gould rings more, a lesser watch, 2 silver Breeches buttons, a silver stop- per, tooth pikes, and another silver brush case	03 10 00
Several walking staves, 2 with silver heads	00 18 00

283 oz. of Plate at 5s. per ounce	70 15 00
Apparell	62 00 00
Linnens (including sixty-eight pairs of sheets)	78 00 00
In Reddy money	299 02 00

His brother James was connected with trade as a woollen-draper in Manchester, and marrying in 1639 Jane, eldest daughter and heiress of Adam Jepson of Moston, he removed his residence to the latter place, and the estate in Moston thus acquired has continued to bear his name to the present day. By this marriage he had issue four sons and two daughters, of whom his eldest son, James, born in 1646, graduated at Oxford, and qualified as a barrister. He succeeded to the Moston estate on the death of his father in 1664, being then a minor. James Lightbowne the elder was the esteemed friend of Henry Newcome, who (*Autobiography*, vol. i. p. 144) thus alludes to his death: "We went out but on Saturday and returned on Monday, and I found my friend Mr. James Lightbowne dead; who fell violently ill on Saturday night, and died on Sabbath day night. I was much startled with the providence and affected."

His Will is dated November 6th, 1664, wherein he describes himself as of Manchester in the county of Lancaster, woollen-draper: Being amongst many other causes moved with the consideration of the frailty and uncertainty of the lives of all people in general, and especially of his own life in particular, whereby he is admonished to make himself ready, as well in the preparation of his soul to God as by the disposition of his earthly substance in the world, he does in his perfect and sound memory and understanding (thanks be given to God for the same) make, ordain, publish, and declare this his last Will and Testament, in manner and form following:

That is to wit, First and principally he renders and bequeaths his soul to his Lord God and Creator, firmly trusting that by the death and passion of His dearly beloved Son, Christ Jesus, his blessed Saviour and Redeemer, and by His only mercy and

mediation for him, he shall live and partake with His blessed saints in His heavenly kingdom of those celestial joys which of His eternal goodness He hath prepared for His elect, of which number through His infinite grace and mercy he confidently and steadfastly hopes and believes that he is one. And his body he commends and leaves to christian burial, in such decent sort as his executors shall think fitting.

And as concerning the disposition of all such messuages, lands, tenements, &c., and of all such goods and chattels as Almighty God of His bounteous liberality hath bestowed upon him, he hereby expresses, publishes, and declares his full will, mind, and intention in that behalf as follows :

That is to wit, he wills that all such debts as he may owe at the time of his decease, and his funeral expenses, shall be defrayed out of his whole goods.

To his eldest son, James Lightbowne, and to his heirs and assigns for ever, he bequeaths all his messuages, tenements, lands, rents, reversions, services, and hereditaments whatsoever, situate, lying, and being in Moston, except one tenement situate in the Streete fould in Moston aforesaid, and which he (testator) holds by grant or assignment from Henry Hardman — which said messuage he reserves to be a part of his personal estate, and to be disposed of therewith, and as a part thereof. He wills, nevertheless, that during his said son's minority the rents of such estates, &c., are to be disposed of as follows : Out of the said estates his executors are to allow to his said son the yearly sum of £50 for his maintenance and education, and the rest and residue thereof to be applied to the education and bringing up of all his (testator's) other children, until the said James shall accomplish his full age of twenty-one years. And he further bequeaths to his said son James the chambers in Gray's Inn, which he bought of Thomas Birch, esquire. And his will is, that his said son, James Lightbowne, his heirs or executors who shall hold and enjoy the aforesaid Moston estate, shall pay unto his (testator's) children, Elizabeth Lightbowne, Samuel Lightbowne, John Lightbowne, Adam Lightbowne, and

Mary Lightbowne, the sum of fifty pounds a piece, as they shall respectively accomplish their full age of twenty-one years, save that the fifty pounds to be paid to his daughter Elizabeth be paid to her within one year after his said son James shall attain his full age of twenty-one years.

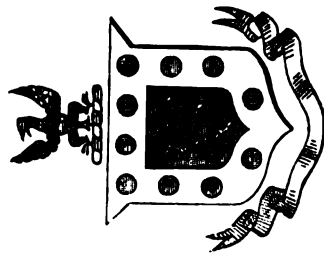
To his son Samuel Lightbowne, and to his heirs and assigns, he gives the messuage, &c., in Manchester wherein testator does now inhabit and dwell, and also the little building and garden in Manchester aforesaid, at the church-yard side upon the river Irwell, and all his messuages, tenements, walke-mill (fulling-mill), lands, and hereditaments in Blackley in the county aforesaid, which he (testator) has lately purchased. Also he gives and bequeaths to his said son, John Lightbowne, and to his heirs and assigns for ever, all his messuages, lands, &c., situate in Spotland in the county of Lancaster. Also he gives to his said son, Adam Lightbowne, and to his heirs and assigns for ever, all his messuages and lands situate in Castleton and Buerdsell moor in the county of Lancaster. And his will and mind is (his debts and funeral expenses first paid), that the residue of his goods and chattels and personal estate, shall be divided into two equal parts, one of which he gives and bequeaths unto his said children, Elizabeth, Samuel, John, Adam, and Mary, to be equally divided. And the other equal part he reserves unto himself and disposes of it as follows: To his said daughter Elizabeth he gives one hundred pounds. To his said son Samuel so much as will make his part of the other moiety to the sum of two hundred pounds, in case the said part will not extend so much. To his daughter Mary he gives fifty pounds; and to each of his executors a mourning cloak. To the poor of Manchester, and the places thereabout, that shall come to his funeral, so much money as shall be thought fit by his executors. And all the rest and residue of the said moiety he gives and bequeaths it to his said children, Elizabeth, John, Adam, and Mary, equally to be divided.

He appoints as his executors his brother, John Lightbowne, esquire, and his brother-in-law, Thomas Minshall, gentleman, during

the minority of his said son James; and he makes his said son James executor thereof, after he attains his full age; and he desires the said John Lightbowne and Thomas Minshull to turn over and deliver to his said son James such monies, &c., or other parts of his (testator's) personal estate, as they shall have in their hands, upon the giving of adequate security, the said security to be given to his said executors out of the lands, &c., in Moston aforesaid. And in case his said son, James Lightbowne, should die before he attain the age of twenty-one years, and undertake the said executorship, that then he desires the said John Lightbowne and Thomas Minshull to continue executors of this his will during the minority of his said son, Samuel Lightbowne; and he makes his said son Samuel executor hereof after his full age, he, the said Samuel, freeing and discharging the said John Lightbowne and Thomas Minshull of their executorship, and giving such security for their indemnity as his said son James was to have done in case he had lived. He appoints as overseers of his will his brothers-in-law, John Coupe and Joseph Werden. Witnesses, Thomas Minshull, junior, Nathan Leech, Ralph Heaton. Proved at Chester, April 20th, 1665.

Inventory of James Lightbowne late of Manchester in the county of Lancaster, woollen-drapeer, deceased, remaininge when James Lightbowne, gent., sonne of the said James Lightbowne, attained to his full age, the fifth day of July, Año Dñi 1667, apprysed and valued by B. Boordman and Evan Clarke.

Imp. In debts good and badd.....	1217 10 05
It. In cloth in Mr. Thomas Bowker's hands	0021 05 06
It. In severall goods in Moston...	0002 04 06
It. In moneys due by specialties lett out att interest for the younger children by the preceding executors	0639 16 08
It. In the hands of Mr. Thomas Dickanson, whoe married one of the said yonger children, for the use of his wife and the rest	0064 07 00



Lightbowne of Boston and Manchester.

(From the MS. Collections of the late Mr. John Palmer.)

James Lightbowne—Eleanor, dau. of
of Manchester,
re-married at Coll. Ch. Jan. 30,
1624, to John Dawson; bur.
there May 8, 1630.

Lydia
Lightbowne,
bapt. at Coll.
Ch. April 15,
1620; bur.
there April
7, 1621.

James
Lightbowne,
of Manchester,
born 1611;
bur. at Coll.
Ch. Nov. 9,
1664.

Ann
Lightbowne,
mar. to Jos.
Minshull of
Manchester,
Apothecary.
From whom
the M^{rs} Shulls
of Chorlton.
Bur. at Coll.
Ch. Dec. 24,
1668.

John
Lightbowne,
esq. Bachelor
of Gray's Inn,
the friend &
correspond-
ent of Hum-
phrey Chet-
nam; mar. at
Coll. Ch. Nov.
16, 1648, Eli-
zabeth, dau.
of Mr. Wil-
liam Lever of
Kerhall; bur.
at Coll. Ch.
Dec. 23, 1667.

Lightbowne,
wife of Mr.
Joseph Wor-
den.

Elizabeth
Lightbowne,
bapt. at Coll.
Ch. July 16,
1644; mar. at
Coll. Ch. Dec.
26, 1663, to
Thos. Dick-
inson.

James
Lightbowne,
of Boston,
bapt. at Coll.
Ch. July 6,
1644; elected
Aug. 5, 1666,
a feeoffee of
the Manches-
ter Grammar
School.

Samuel
Lightbowne,
of Manches-
ter, woollen
draper; bap-
t. at Coll. Ch.
Feb. 4, 1648-9;
mar. at Coll.
Ch. Jan. 29,
1670-80, Eliz-
abeth; bur.
there Nov. 6,
1697.

John
Lightbowne,
of Manches-
ter, linen
draper; bap-
t. at Coll. Ch.
July 13, 1651;
mar. there Dec.
11, 1673; bur.
Mary's Gate;
there Feb. 8,
1709-10.

Alice,
dau. of William
Page of Man-
chester, draper;
bapt. at Coll. Ch.
Feb. 16, 1651;
mar. there Dec.
11, 1673; bur.
there Feb. 8,
1709-10.

John
Lightbowne,
of Manches-
ter, linen
draper; bap-
t. at Coll. Ch.
July 13, 1651;
mar. there Dec.
11, 1673; bur.
Mary's Gate;
there Feb. 8,
1709-10.

Adam
Lightbowne.

Mary,
dau. of
Bowker; mar.
at Coll. Ch. May 30,
1706; bur. at
Coll. Ch.
May 26, 1710;
died
bur. there Oct. 30,
1747.

James
Lightbowne,
bapt. at Coll.
Ch. May 30,
1706; bur. at
Coll. Ch.
May 26, 1710;
died
bur. there Oct. 30,
1747.

Margaret,
dau. of
died March 9,
1708; bur. at
Coll. Ch.

Elizabeth
Lightbowne,
bapt. at Coll.
Ch. July 29,
1677.

William
Lightbowne,
bapt. at Coll.
Ch. May 6,
1683.

Hannah,
dau. of
Roseow; mar.
at Coll. Ch.
Feb. 10, 1731.

Thomas
Lightbowne,
bapt. at Coll.
Ch. Nov. 2,
1690; bur.
there June
11, 1733.

Mary,
dau. of
Greenwood,
mar. at Coll.
Ch. Jan. 6,
1713-13; bur.
there Nov.
20, 1738.

<p>James Lightbowne, bapt. at Coll. Ch. Dec. 27, 1734; bur. there; March 12, 1734 & 14, 1738.</p>	<p>Elizabeth Lightbowne, bapt. at Coll. Ch. May 19, 1737; bur. there; May 14, 1738.</p>	<p>Eleanor Lightbowne, bapt. at Coll. Ch. Dec. 14, 1735; bur. there Nov. 7, 1743.</p>	<p>Ann Lightbowne, bapt. at Coll. Ch. Nov. 30, 1733; bur. there Oct. 31, 1743.</p>	<p>Sarah Lightbowne, bapt. at Coll. Ch. Aug. 2, 1713.</p>	<p>John Lightbowne, bapt. at Coll. Ch. April 7, 1715.</p>	<p>Thomas Lightbowne, bur. at Manches- ter, engne- ver; bapt. at Coll. Ch. July 7, 1717; bur. there April 3, 1775.</p>	<p>Mary, daun of ... born 1723; bur. at Jan. 11, 1797.</p>	<p>Ann Lightbowne, bapt. at Coll. Ch. Nov. 8, 1719.</p>	<p>Joseph Lightbowne, bapt. at Coll. Ch. Feb. 26, 1721; 2; bur. Nov. 8, 1722.</p>	<p>Joseph Lightbowne, bapt. at Coll. Ch. Nov. 5, 1730; died Sept. 18, 1806; a partner of Thos. Wor- thington.</p>
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Lighthorne of Salford.

James Lighthorne—Eleanor, dau. of
of Manchester, Reman to John Dawson
bur. at Coll. Ch. Jan. 30, 1626-7;
April 3, 1631. bur. there May 8, 1631.

James Lighthorne. Nathan Lighthorne, Lydia Lighthorne, Ann Lighthorne, John Lighthorne, —Elizabeth, dau. of Mr.
born 1616, written bapt. at Coll. Ch. Dec. 21, 1617. bapt. at Coll. Ch. April 18, 1630; bapt. at Coll. Ch. Nov. 5, 1630; mar. there Nov. 16, 1633.
chapman, of Man- Dec. 21, 1617. bur. there April 7, 1631. at Coll. Ch. Dec. 24, 1630. R. Salford, esq., bap. at Coll. Ch. Nov. 5, 1630; mar. there Nov. 16, 1633.
chester, mar. Jane friend & correspondent of Humphrey Chelham, and the su- perior of his will; bur. at Coll. Ch. Dec. 23, 1637.

Elizabeth Lighthorne, —Francis Lindley,
bapt. at Coll. Ch. Oct. 1, 1641; remarried to Barr. of Gray's Inn; mar. at Coll. Ch. Jan. 6, 1663-4; bur. there Jan. 11, 1668-9.

Elizabeth Lindley —George Piggott of Preston, esq. bapt. at Coll. Ch. July 6, 1646; bur. there Sep. 16, 1748. John Lindley, bapt. at Coll. Ch. Dec. 6, 1668; bur. there Oct. 14, 1672. Francis Lindley, bapt. at Coll. Ch. Jan. 16, 1667-8.

Lindley George Piggott, bapt. at Coll. Ch. April 29, 1686; buried there Sept. 30, 1692. Elizabeth Piggott, bapt. at Coll. Ch. July 16, 1690; died un- mar. May 13, 1768; bur. at Coll. Ch. George Piggott, bapt. at Coll. Ch. Sept. 5, 1688; buried there Oct. 8, 1692. Elizabeth Piggott, bapt. at Coll. Ch. Jan. 1, 1691-2. Mary Piggott, bapt. at Coll. Ch. Jan. 1, 1691-2. Thomas Piggott, bapt. at Coll. Ch. Feb. 19, 1692-3. Dorothy Piggott, bapt. at Coll. Ch. Mar. 28, 1694; buried July 14, 1694. Francis Piggott, bapt. at Coll. Ch. Oct. 14, 1697. John Piggott, bapt. at Coll. Ch. June 6, 1699; buried there May 24, 1708. Robert Piggott, bapt. at Coll. Ch. May 9, 1707; buried there Mar. 27, 1708. Katharine Piggott, bapt. at Coll. Ch. Dec. 19, 1707; died un- mar. Apr. 23, 1709; buried at Coll. Ch. where is a monument to her memory.

James Lightbowne, the eldest son of the testator, is found residing at Lightbowne hall towards the close of the century, and probably occupied it until his death. His brother John (testator's third son) married Alice, daughter of William Page of Manchester, draper, whose sister Katharine, widow of Edward Scott of Manchester, grocer, and wife of James Diggle of the same place, was mother of Ellen Diggle, married December 5th, 1714, to the Rev. John Copley, Fellow of the Collegiate church, Manchester. The issue of this marriage was a daughter Katharine, who (in 1748) became the wife of Sir Thomas Grey Egerton of Heaton, baronet, and mother of Sir Thomas Egerton of the same place, created in 1784 Baron Grey de Wilton, and in 1801 Viscount Grey de Wilton and Earl of Wilton.

Lightbowne hall, to the eye of the casual observer, presents in its external appearance but few features of attraction; it is only upon a more close examination that anything of an antiquated character can be discovered, the outer walls being covered with whitewash, which at once conceals its beauties and its defects. It is of two stories, constructed entirely of brick, with mullions, quoins, and window-dressings of stone. The upper windows have been modernised, but those in the basement story still preserve their original form — square-headed, divided into lights by substantial mullions, moulded, and crossed by transoms, protected with a label continued as a moulding. The general arrangement of the house seems in the course of years to have undergone considerable changes, the main front having formerly extended some distance beyond its present limits; whilst at the rear additions have from time to time been made, to meet the requirements of successive occupants. The interior still preserves much of its ancient character, notwithstanding the altered purposes to which many of its apartments are now applied — still exhibiting its original oak-paneling untouched by the sacrilegious brush of the painter, and spared as yet the too frequent infliction of whitewash.

On the ground-floor is an apartment of considerable dimensions also wainscoted, lighted originally by four windows, one of which

has been blocked up, but in the subjoined sketch restored to view. The ceiling is of plaster, intersected by oak beams moulded at the angles.



When and under what circumstances their Moston estate passed from the Lightbowne family does not appear, but about the middle of last century it was found to be vested in one Elizabeth Illingworth of Queen Square, Westminster, widow, who by Will dated December 14th, 1759, devises it to her daughter Zenobia Ann Bowker, widow of Benjamin Bowker, to hold the same so long as she the devisee should continue a widow and unmarried; and after the death or second marriage of the said Zenobia Ann Bowker, to her (testatrix) grand-daughters, Ann Bowker, Elizabeth Bowker, and Maria Bowker, their heirs and assigns for ever, equally to be divided amongst them, as tenants in common and not as joint tenants.

On the death of the said Zenobia Ann Bowker, her daughters aforesaid became entitled to the estate. Ann intermarried with George Bolton, esquire; Elizabeth with Lewis Mathias, of Gray's Inn, esquire; and Maria with Robert Haly, esquire.

Ann's share, at her death, descended to and became vested in John Bolton, Doctor of Physic, her eldest son and heir.

Elizabeth's share, at her death, became vested in her husband for his life, with remainder to her two children, John Mathias and Zenobia Ann Mathias, as tenants in common.

Maria, surviving her husband, became herself a party to the subjoined deed:—

By Indenture of lease and release, dated respectively July 28th and 29th, 1800, between George Bolton of Younghall, in the kingdom of Ireland, esquire, John Bolton of Younghall aforesaid, Doctor of Physic, (which said John Bolton was the eldest son and heir-at-law of Ann Bolton deceased, late wife of the said George Bolton, formerly the said Ann Bowker,) Lewis Mathias of Llangwauen, in the county of Pembroke, esquire, John Mathias of Llangwauen aforesaid, esquire, and Zenobia Ann Mathias of Llangwauen aforesaid, spinster (which said John Mathias and Zenobia Ann Mathias were the only surviving children of the said Lewis Mathias by Elizabeth his then late wife), and Maria Haly; which said Ann Bolton, Elizabeth Mathias, and Maria Haly were the devisees in fee named in the will of the aforesaid Elizabeth Illingworth, of the first part, William Cross of Preston, in the county of Lancaster, gentleman, of the second part, Edward Chippindall of Manchester, in the said county of Lancaster, gentleman, of the third part, Samuel Taylor of Moston, within the parish of Manchester, esquire, of the fourth part, and Jeremiah Withington of Barton-upon-Irwell, in the parish of Eccles and county of Lancaster, of the fifth part; It is witnessed that in consideration of the sum of nine thousand pounds to the said George Bolton, John Bolton, Lewis Mathias, John Mathias, Zenobia Ann Mathias, and Maria Haly, in hand paid by the said Samuel Taylor; and in consideration of ten shillings a-piece to the said George Bolton, John Bolton, Lewis Mathias, John Mathias, Zenobia Ann Mathias, and Maria Haly, paid by the said Samuel Taylor and Jeremiah Withington; and for the docking, barring, destroying, and extinguishing all estates tail, and all reversions and remainders

thereupon expectant or depending of and in the several messuages, dwelling-houses, cottages, lands, rents, &c., thereafter particularly described and thereby granted and released; they the said George Bolton, John Bolton, Lewis Mathias, John Mathias, Zenobia Ann Mathias, and Maria Haly, grant, bargain, sell, alien, release, and confirm unto the said William Cross in his actual possession, &c., and to his heirs (inter alia) all that capital messuage, mansion, or dwelling-house, with the appurtenances, then or theretofore called or known by the name of Lightbowne hall, situate and being in Moston, and also all those several closes, fields, or parcels of land thereunto belonging, containing in the whole fifty-eight acres of land, Lancashire measure; and also that pew or seat in the nave of the Parish and Collegiate church of Christ in Manchester, as well as that other pew or seat in the chapel of Newton, to the said capital messuage, mansion, or dwelling-house belonging or appertaining; and also all those several parcels of land with the tenements thereon, known as Wilson's Tenement, Chadderton's Tenement, The Lum Estate, &c., in all 81a. 2r. 16p., together with the public-house known as The Blue Bell Inn. The said William Cross to stand and be seized of the said premises and hereditaments to the only proper use and behoof of the said Samuel Taylor and Jeremiah Withington, their heirs, and assigns for ever. Nevertheless, as to the estate and interest of the said Jeremiah Withington, his heirs, and assigns therein, in trust for the said Samuel Taylor, his heirs and assigns for ever.

By Will dated October 10th, 1801, Samuel Taylor, after reciting that he had then lately purchased from Lewis Mathias and others divers freehold estates in the townships of Moston, Blackley, and Newton, gives and devises all his freehold estates situate in Moston and Blackley unto Mary his wife and her assigns for and during the term of her natural life, and after her decease to his son Samuel Taylor and his heirs male.

Mrs. Taylor died November 17th, 1802, upon whose death her son, Samuel Taylor, according to the terms of his father's will,

entered upon the estate. He died October 23rd, 1820, and was succeeded by his eldest son, Samuel Taylor of Eccleston, esquire, who in 1831 sold the Bluestone House Farm, comprising 24a. 2r. 34p., a part of the original Lightbowne hall estate, to Mr. Joseph Bleackley of Ardwick, near Manchester, and in 1848 disposed of Lightbowne hall itself, together with 59a. 1r. 25p., to the same purchaser.

SHACKLOCK OF MOSTON.

In the reign of Henry VIII. amongst the families of note then resident in Moston was that of Shacklock, the members of which held their lands in the township on lease from the subinfeudatory lord, Robert, Earl of Sussex.

In the 38 Henry VIII. (1547), Robert and Thomas Shacklock prosecute Hugh Shacklock and others in the Duchy court at Lancaster, the leasehold property in question being the matter in dispute. And in the 4 Edward VI. (1551), the said Thomas Shacklock is defendant in the same court, in a suit brought against him by Edmund Assheton and others, tenants of Nuthurst, for having interrupted the right of way to the Manchester market.

By his Will dated March 14th, 1610, Thomas Shacklock of Moston in the county of Lancaster, chapman, "beinge of sounde and p'fecte memorie, yett greeved wth infirmities and sicknes in his bodie," commends his soul into the hands of Almighty God, trusting by the merits of Christ Jesus to be an inheritor of the Kingdom of Heaven. And his body he leaves to a comely burial at the discretion of his executors.

And as touching such small portion of worldly goods as it hath pleased God to lend him, he gives and bequeaths the same as follows:

His debts first paid, he reserves to himself one-third part of his goods; another third part he bequeaths to Alice his wife; and the remaining third part he gives to his sons, Robert Shacklock, Oswald Shacklock, and Henry Shacklock, equally to be divided.

He wills that his funeral expenses shall be taken out of the

third part of his goods to himself reserved ; the remainder thereof (if any there be) to be divided between his wife and his three sons, in equal proportions.

To his said son, Robert Shacklock, he gives all his estate and interest in one close or parcel of ground in Moston aforesaid, called The Marled Earth, now in his (testator's) tenure—entreating his loving cousin, Edward Shacklock, to be a kind kinsman to his said son Robert, and to suffer him to enjoy the same as his trustees shall will.

“And whereas, about twenty-two years sithence, my said cousin, Edward Shacklock, in consideration that I should bestow cost in building upon my tenement within Moston aforesaid, did faithfully promise unto me to make me a new lease of my said tenement for the term of one hundred years or of ninety-nine years at the least from that time, and that in regard of his said promise I did bestow forty pounds at the least in building upon the said tenement ; I do most earnestly request my said cousin, Edward Shacklock, that in performance of his said promise he would be pleased to make good the said lease unto my said son, Robert Shacklock, unto whom alone I hereby give and bequeath all advantage, benefit, and profit of the said promise ; and I hereby will and require my executrix that she be aiding and assisting to my said son Robert for the obtaining and recovery of the said lease.”

And of this his last will and testament he makes his said loving wife, Alice Shacklock, full and whole executrix. Proved at Chester, April 17th, 1611.

His goods and chattels as “praised” by Richard Ogden, Geoffrey Bowker, Nicholas Holme, and James Cleater, were valued at £46.15.2.

Edward Shacklock, who is referred to by the testator, and claimed by him under the vague relationship of cousin, resided also in Moston. He married Alice, daughter of Mr. Ralph Cudworth of Werneth, and sister to Margaret, wife of James Chetham of Nuthurst, and of the celebrated Dr. Ralph Cudworth, master of Christ's College, Cambridge, and dying in 1618, was succeeded

by his son, John Shacklock, the father of Edward, by whom the family estate was alienated to the Chethams in 1663. This Edward Shacklock, born in 1626, married Margaret, daughter of Richard Entwisle of Foxholes in the county of Lancaster, esquire.

It does not appear that arms were ever granted to the Shacklocks, or that they entered a pedigree at any of the Lancashire visitations. In a list of names of persons who had neglected to appear before Sir William Dugdale at his visitation in 1664, to register their descents and to justify their titles of esquires and gentlemen, and their right to such coats of arms as they have usually borne, occurs that of Mr. Shacklock of Moston; and Hollingworth who about the same period closes his annals of Manchester, with an enumeration of the more distinguished families in the town and its neighbourhood, includes the Shacklocks in his list. Though no vestige remains of the house they once occupied, its site is still indicated by the name Shackliffe Green.

The Will of Edward Shacklock, the "loving cousin" of Thomas, an abstract of whose will has already been given, is dated October 24th, 1618. He is described therein as of Moston in the county of Lancaster, gentleman.

He gives his soul into the hands of Almighty God, "assuring myself that in and through the p'cious bloodshed, righteousness, and meritts of my Lord and Savior Christe, He will receive it into his kingdom when it shall please Him to call mee from this mortall life;" and commits his body unto comely burial at the discretion of his executors.

Unto his loving wife Alice he gives one full third part of his goods, chattels, and credits, (his debts and funeral expenses first paid out of his entire personal estate;) and to all his children, except his son and heir, another third part; the remaining third part he reserves unto himself, and out of it he gives to his servant, John Field, twenty shillings; and to his servant, Dorothy, twenty shillings; to Elizabeth Newton, his servant, five shillings; to James Jackson, his servant, three shillings and four pence; and a like sum to John Marchant, his servant; to William Berch, his servant, he

gives two shillings ; and to the poor of his town, to be distributed by his executors, ten shillings. All the rest and residue of this, his own reserved third part, to his younger children, to be equally divided.

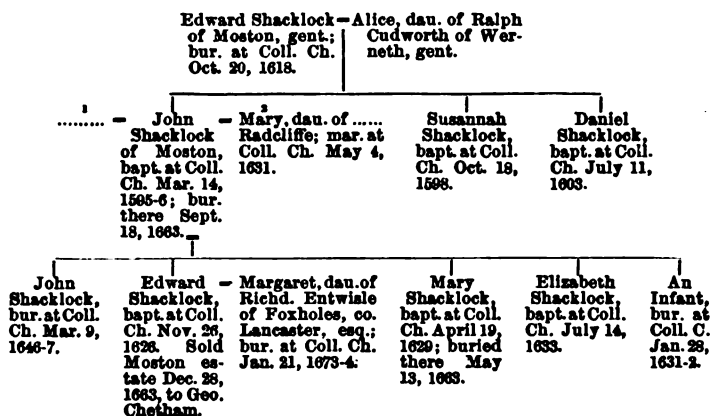
And as to the lands and tenements which God in His mercy hath bestowed on him, he disposes of them as follows : First, he gives the Yowgate ffields with the houses and grounds thereunto belonging, now in the occupation of Abraham Bardsley and Henry J and also the close and messuage now in the occupation of Hulme, Robert Pearson, and Robert Shacklock, on trust for the benefit of his wife and younger children. But forasmuch as his lands are entailed (except those lands which he has formerly demised to his son and heir) whereby he cannot charge them with the performance of the above payments to his wife and children, he is now forced to charge the said demised lands with the said payments as followeth : That in any case of failure in such annual payment, he gives full and absolute power and authority unto his beloved kinsmen, James Hall and John Hall, sons of James Hall of Drielsden, yeomen, and to his neighbour, Adam Jepson of Moston, to give, grant, bargain, alien, sell, and confirm at such prices and rates, as they or two of them shall think meet, to any person all or so much of the demised lands and tenements as they shall think to be sufficient for the answering and paying of the aforesaid payments so unpaid. And whereas his said servant, John ffielden, hath dwelt with him and his father many years, who is now becoming aged, his will and mind is, and his wife and son have given their full consent thereto, that during his life he shall be sufficiently maintained with meat, drink, apparel, and lodging at the cost and charge of his (testator's) wife and heirs. He names as his executors his wife and his eldest son, and appoints as overseers his loving brother Mr. John Cudworth of Werneth and Mr. Edward Tetlowe of Coldhurst, desiring both his executors and overseers to be willing to take some pains to see this will truly performed.

A few extracts from the inventory of his personal property

taken at his decease may serve to show the value of farming stock, &c., two centuries and a half ago :

Imp. Three geldings and three mares	36 00 00
It. One fatt cowe.....	03 13 04
It. One yoake of fatt oxen	13 00 00
It. Nineteen kyne, one gelded bull, and seven calves.....	72 10 00
It. Nynne swine	12 00 00
It. In the buttery, in pewter	03 10 00
It. In trenchers and plattes	01 00 00
It. In yearne, greay and white cloath	140 00 00
Debts owing to testator :	
Imp. By my cozen Jeffrey Bowker	03 00 00
It. By William Travis of Moston for a cowe ..	03 00 00
It. By Jos ^a Street of Moston for a gelding ...	04 10 00
Total debts owing to him at his decease, £274.13.6.	

Pedigree of Shacklock of Moston.



HOUGH OF HOUGH HALL IN MOSTON.

Hough hall is the only mansion commemorative of Moston's ancient glory which has survived the ravages of time and the march of modern improvement. It is a half-timbered house, and still presents externally the same aspect it ever wore. Anciently the family wrote its name Halgh, which was probably pronounced conformably to the modern spelling. It was always a family of note, though never bearing arms or entering a pedigree at any of the Lancashire Visitations.

George Halgh of Halgh, in Manchester parish, gent., lived in the reign of Henry VIII., and dying left a widow Ann, daughter of John (or William) Consterdine of Blackley, and afterwards the second wife of Sir John Byron of Clayton, knight, but who during her first husband's lifetime had been living in open adultery with the aforesaid Sir John. The offspring of this illicit intercourse was a son designed by Sir John as his heir, and also a daughter called by her mother's name and inheriting her mother's frailty. This daughter was married to Cuthbert Scholfield of Scholfield in the parish of Rochdale, gentleman, the promoter in 1561 of a suit in the court of the Bishop of Chester against Michael Goodricke, gentleman, who, as it was alleged, had committed adultery with Mrs. Ann Scholfield in the house of her husband, called Scholfield hall. Amongst the deponents was a tailor who was plying his vocation at the hall "makeing a gowne for Mrs. Ann and other apparel for her husband;" and he describes with the usual minuteness what he saw, the guilty parties being in an upper chamber; that Cuthbert and his mother were gone to Rochdale market; that he went for them, and met them returning home; that Goodricke escaped and got out of a window of the hall, and was followed by Ann; that Cuthbert "got to his sword," and would have followed and slain them.⁽¹⁾

The registers of Manchester cathedral, which commence in 1573, contain frequent references to this family, indicating the position

⁽¹⁾ Canon Raines, *The Stanley Papers*, part ii. (Chetham Society's Publications,) pp. 164-5.

it occupied in the social scale by the prefix of "Mr." or the suffix of "gent": "Bapt. Oct. 10, 1574, Alice, daughter of Mr. Robert Halghe; Aug. 11, 1577, Katharine, daughter of Mr. Robert Halghe; April 18, 1579, Susannah, daughter of Robert Halghe gent.," &c.

From the inventory of Robert Haugh, gener., who is described as of Blackley (and probably because his residence, Hough hall, was situated within a few yards of the boundary line which separates the townships of Moston and Blackley), dated July 26th, 1591, it appears that his "goods and chattels" were valued at £129.17.6, and were administered to by Cecily his widow; his estate was found chargeable with debts amounting to £159.0.4. Amongst his creditors were Mr. Longley of Manchester, x^s; Mr. Hollingworth, v^{li}; Ann Stafford, for three syves of otes, xxx^s; and further disbursements to be made out of his estate "ffor blacke for the ffunerall, xij^{li}; the chardges at the church for the ffunerall, xxx^s; one cove for the principall price, xlvij^s ij^d."

By Indenture bearing date March 14th, 1629, Robert Halghe, son and heir-apparent of Valentyne Halghe of Moston, gentleman, conveys to Robert Maden the younger of Hopwood, in the county of Lancaster, all those several closes or parcels of land situate and lying in Moston, known as The Great Stake Field, The New Close, The Long Shutt, The Burnt Acre, The Hollow Meadow, and The Yarn Croft. In another Moston Deed reference is made to one Atherton Halgh of Boston, in the county of Lincoln, esquire.

In 1646 Robert Halgh of Moston, espousing the cause of Charles I., compounded for his estate by a payment of £25 in order to secure to himself a future freedom from the exactions of the Parliamentary party.

The Will of Robert Halgh, the last of the family seated at Moston, is dated March 30th, 1678. He describes himself as "being moved (amongst many other causes) with the consideration of the frailty and uncertainty of the lives of all people in general, and of his own life in particular, finding himself to grow into years and infirmities whereby he is admonished to make himself ready as well in the preparation of his soul to God as the dis-

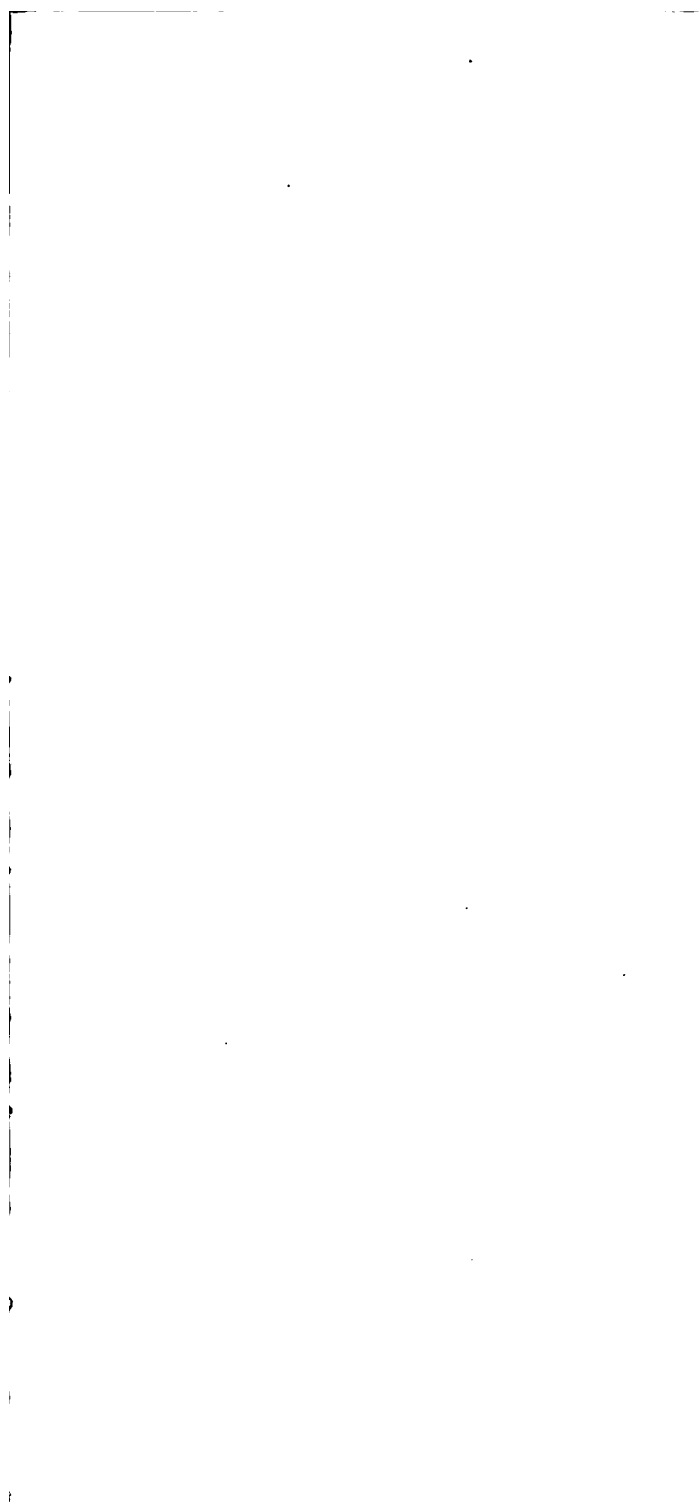
position of his earthly substance in this world;" thus moved, he does in his perfect and sound memory and understanding, thanks be given to Almighty God for the same, make, ordain, publish, and declare his last will and testament.

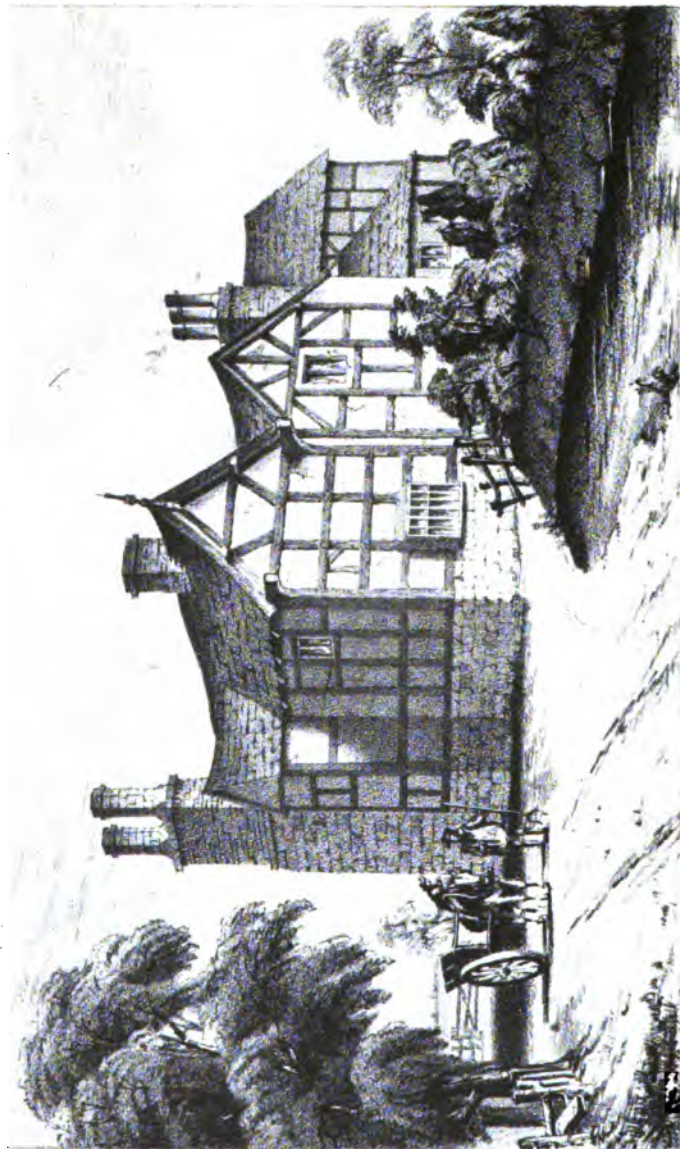
First and principally, he renders and bequeaths his soul to his Lord God and Creator, firmly trusting that by the death and passion of His dearly beloved Son Jesus Christ, his Saviour and Redeemer, and by His only mercy and mediation for him, he shall live and partake with His blessed saints in His heavenly kingdom of those celestial joys which of His eternal goodness He hath prepared for His elect, of which number through His infinite grace and mercy he does confidently and steadfastly believe that he is one; and his body he commends and leaves to Christian burial in such decent way as his executors shall think fitting.

And as to his lands, messuages, tenements, &c., whatsoever, situate in Moston or elsewhere, he devises and bequeaths the same unto John Dawson, alias Halgh, his putative son, and to his heirs and assigns for ever, for he owns him as his son and heir-apparent.

And as to the sum of £100, which falls to him (testator) in accordance with the terms of an Indenture made November 1st, 1646, between him (testator) on the one part, and Ralph Assheton, esquire, of Middleton, since deceased, upon the other part, he devises to Mary, now wife of Thomas Berker of Newton, twenty shillings, part thereof, and unto Hannah Buerdsall, now wife of John Buerdsall of Blakeley, the like sum of twenty shillings; and all the rest of the said sum of £100 he gives and bequeaths unto Anne his loving wife and to his said son John, equally to be divided. And as touching all his personal estate, of what nature or quality soever, he gives and devises the same (his just debts and funeral expenses first paid) in equal proportions to his said wife and son, whom he names as his executors. Witnesses: William Rawlinson sen., William Rawlinson jun., Raphe Heaton. Proved at Chester December 5th, 1685. — By a probate attached to the will it appears that the widow renounced her executorship.

Immediately on the death of Mr. Halgh the estate was pur-





Hough Hall,
BOSTON.

chased from his "putative son" and successor, by James Lightbowne, esquire, of Manchester, who annexed it to his other Moston property.

This transfer is evidenced by a Bond which Mr. James Lightbowne entered into December 15th, 1685, wherein he pledges himself to forfeit £300 if he fail, on receiving two months' notice, to surrender and redeliver into the public registry of the Bishop of Chester the original will of Mr. Robert Haulgh, then given into his custody. Of Mr. Lightbowne, it is said in the bond that "he hath purchased and is in the present possession of all the lands, tenements, and premises in the will mentioned and devised."

At the commencement of the last century Hough hall and estate was found in the possession of the Minshulls of Chorlton. In 1769 it was conveyed in marriage by Mrs. Barbara Minshull, widow of Thomas Minshull of Manchester, apothecary, to Roger Aytoun of Inchdarney, in the county of Fife, esquire, a cornet in the Marquis of Lothian's regiment of dragoons, and a gentleman whose character for improvidence and recklessness had already obtained for him the appellation of "Spanking Roger." This alliance proved unfortunate; and if tradition is to be believed, Mr. Aytoun deserted his wife within a week of their marriage. The estates thus acquired were soon squandered. In the year 1774 Chorlton hall, Garratt hall, and Hough hall,⁽¹⁾ with their respective demesnes, portions of the Minshull property, were sold to supply the extravagance of their new possessor. Hough hall with twenty-six acres of land, Lancashire measure, passed into the hands of Samuel Taylor, gentleman, whose grandson, Samuel Taylor of Ibbots-holme, in the county of Cumberland, esquire, is the present owner of the estate.

Hough hall, is a picturesque and interesting example of the timber houses of the Elizabethan period, situated in the township of Moston, close upon the confines of Blackley. The basement, to

(¹) The Rev. Canon Raines (*Notitia Cestriensis*, vol. ii. pt. i. p. 88) has confounded this estate with Hough in the township of Didsbury. The property thus disposed of in 1774 was Hough hall in Moston.

the height of from three to four feet, is of ashlar, supporting a strong frame-work of timber crossed at intervals by transverse beams and braced diagonally, the interstices filled up with brick and covered with a coating of plaster. On the east side is a substantial chimney constructed chiefly of stone, the upper portion of brick, originally surmounted by two lozenge-shaped chimney shafts, of which the foundations only now remain. In the arrangement of the structure no particular order or regularity seems to have been observed. It consists of an oblong pile, with two gables of unequal size projecting from the east end. It is in a tolerable state of preservation, and without date, inscription, or other device to connect it with any particular period, from its general appearance and characteristics, it may fairly be considered of the age to which it has been already referred. The interior presents nothing worthy of notice.

Amongst the less distinguished residents in Moston in the days of its ancient grandeur was the family of STREET, occupying probably a place in the rank of yeomen. In the first year of Queen Mary (1553) William Street was defendant in a suit in the Duchy court entered against him by William Cade and Margaret his wife, executrix of Ralph Standish deceased, in respect of a disputed title to tithes of corn and grain in Newton, Moston, and Crumpsall.

From the Inquisition post mortem of George Street, in the 31st Elizabeth (1588), he is found seized of a messuage and lands in Moston.

The records of the Manchester Court-leet also contain several allusions to this family. In 1595, April 24, Oct. 2, George Street of Moston is declared to have died; heir not known. In 1596, Sept. 30, Richard Street dead some time; left a son of full age.

Nothing now remains to assist in identifying this family with any particular locality in the township. Street-fold is suggestive of their residence, but Whitaker has already forestalled its appropriation, although it may be doubted whether its name is derived, as he conjectures, from its being the site of the Roman road which

passes through Moston, or whether it is not rather to be taken as indicating the abode of the family whose name it bears.

Another family of corresponding rank was that of JEPSON, land-owners in the township in the reign of Elizabeth.

Nicholas Jepson died in the 37th Elizabeth (1595) and was succeeded by his son Robert Jepson, who appears to have survived his father but seven years, his Inquisition post mortem bearing date the 45th Elizabeth (1602). His eldest son and successor, Adam, is described as of Chorlton-row in Manchester, at which place he carried on business as a dealer in cotton yarns, still retaining the inheritance of his forefathers in Moston, where he in part resided, adding to his other occupation that of a farmer. He married in 1619 Jane Holland of Eccles, by whom he had issue seven daughters, and dying in 1632 left his Moston estate to his eldest daughter Jane, who in 1639 became the wife of James Lightbowne of Manchester, esquire, the future owner and occupant of the estate which still bears his name.

By his Will dated June 13th, 1595, Nicholas Jepson of Moston, in the county of Lancaster, yeoman, "being sycke in bodye, but in mental health sounde and perfecte," commends his soul into the hands of Almighty God, beseeching Him for the merits of His Son Jesus Christ to receive the same into His kingdom when it shall please Him to take him from this mortal life; and his body he commends to comely burial, at the discretion of his executors. And as touching his lands and tenements, he gives and devises them as follows: First, he gives to his wife a third of all his lands, tenements, &c., in lieu and place of all dower, for and during the term of her natural life; all the rest and residue, together with the third part so reserved, on the decease of his wife he devises to his son Robert Jepson, his heirs, and assigns for ever. Also, he wills that his son Robert shall pay his (testator's) son John out of his own proper goods the sum of three score pounds of lawful English money, "and uppon the feaste daye of Saint Michael th' Archangell w^{ch} shall be in the yeare of o' Lord one thousand sixe

hundereth, att or in the sowthe porche of the p'ishe church of Manchester," if the said John be then living; but if the said John be then dead, without issue or wife, then the said son Robert to pay unto all his (testator's) daughters, Alice wife of Robert Brooke, Ellen wife of Laurence Wallworth, Margaret wife of Richard Whitworth, Jane wife of Robert Barlow, Mary and Martha now unmarried, the sum of forty pounds at the feast of St. Michael the Archangel, and at the place aforesaid, equally to be divided. He directs, moreover, that if his said son Robert shall make default of payment of the said sum of three score pounds, that then testator's son John, if he be living, shall enjoy for the term of his natural life one cottage now in the holding of Edmund Fitton, one close called The Little Park, containing one acre and a half, and three other closes called The Kempe Fyldes, containing in the whole by estimation six acres; and if his son John be then dead, leaving wife or children, then the cottage and lands to go to them for the term of twenty years. And further, if his said son Robert Jepson make default of payment of the said sum of forty pounds, then he gives and devises to his daughters equally the said cottage and lands for twenty years. And as touching his goods and chattels, he gives and devises them as follows: To his wife one third part, as of right belonging to her; to his children not already married one other third part, as of right to them belonging; and the other third part to himself; of which last third part he gives unto his four daughters now married, Ellen, Margaret, Alice, and Jane, to every one of them twenty shillings; to his three servants, James Holland, Ann Cocke, and Jane Cocke, to every one of them three shillings and four pence; also to John Soundyforth his old white horse; to Edmund Fitton his grey horse; to his said son Robert a black heifer; to Elizabeth, wife of John Bowker, the least of his stirks; to John Thorpe his leather jerkin. And it is moreover his will, and his said son Robert does consent unto it, that his (testator's) said wife shall occupy and enjoy the body of . . . dwelling-house and all the rooms above, together with the entry to the same, all which contain two bays of

building, so long as she keep herself unmarried; also he gives the ceiling to his son Robert, he paying therefore to testator's daughters, Mary and Martha, forty shillings at their marriage. All the rest of his goods not before bequeathed he gives to his daughters, Mary and Martha, equally. He appoints as his executors his loving wife and his son Robert. Witnesses: Richard Whitworth, George Scholes, and Edward Shacklock. Proved at Chester July 23rd, 1595.

His goods and chattels were valued at £133.9.8, and the inventory includes the following items: Imp. 9 kyne and a calf, £22.12.0; It. 4 yonge beasts, £4.12.0; It. 1 heiffer, £1.16.8; It. Silver spoons, £1.3.4; It. In horses and mares and two colts, £14.18.4; It. In apparell, £4.0.0.

Adam Jepson, his grandson, died, as already stated, in 1632, leaving seven daughters, the eldest of whom was about twelve years of age at her father's decease.

By his Will dated July 27th, 1632, wherein he is described as of Chorlton-row within the parish of Manchester and county of Lancaster, yeoman, he gives his soul to Almighty God, and his body to be interred within the parish church of Manchester. And as concerning the disposing of all and singular his messuages, lands, and tenements in Moston and elsewhere, within the parish of Manchester, he gives and bequeaths them one and all to his eldest daughter Jane Jepson and to her heirs; and in default of such issue unto his now second daughter Marie Jepson and to her heirs; and in default of such issue unto his now third daughter Martha Jepson and her heirs; and in default, &c., unto his fourth daughter Sarah Jepson and her heirs; and in default, &c., unto his fifth daughter Elizabeth Jepson and her heirs; and in default, &c., unto his sixth daughter Alice Jepson and her heirs; and in default, &c., unto his now youngest daughter Hannah Jepson and her heirs; and in default, &c., to the right heirs of him the said Adam Jepson for ever. And he wills that after his death the issues of his property be made available for the maintenance and education of his seven daughters until the eldest or any other of them attain the

age of twenty-one years. And as to his goods and chattels, he wills that (his debts and funeral expenses first paid) they be divided into three parts, whereof he directs that his now wife Jane shall have one part; and the second part he gives to six of his daughters, viz., Mary, Martha, Sarah, Elizabeth, Alice, and Hannah, equally to be divided, for and in lieu of their several filial portions, to be paid to them with interest as they shall severally attain the age of twenty-one years or be married; the third part he reserves to himself, whereof he gives to his wife ten pounds and to his eldest daughter ten pounds in lieu, recompence, and full satisfaction of her filial porton, hoping she will be therewithal well pleased. And whereas he stands liable to pay £3.4.0 per annum unto Jennet Hey, aunt to his now wife, for the term of her natural life, it is his will that such payment be continued and paid out of his third part; to his loving mother Alice Jepson, widow, he bequeaths ten shillings; and to his aforesaid brother Robert Jepson twenty shillings; and to his brother-in-law John Birch twenty shillings; and to his (testator's) sister Alice Birch five shillings; to his sister Martha Wallworth five shillings; to all his god-children twelve pence a piece; and to the overseers of this his will five shillings a piece; to the poor of Moston twenty shillings; to the poor of Manchester twenty shillings; and as to the residue of his third part, he gives it to his said six children, Mary, Martha, Sarah, Elizabeth, Alice, and Hannah, equally to be divided. And it is his will that his said mother Alice Jepson shall have the tuition, keeping, education, and bringing up of his said eldest daughter Jane Jepson until she attain the age of twenty-one years or until her marriage; but if his mother die during the minority, of his said daughter, then he directs that his wife Jane shall have the tuition, &c., of his said daughter, as also of all his other daughters, and shall have the direction of their property; but that if she marry again, or be of unchaste conversation, or do depart this life during the minority of his said daughter, then that his brother-in-law John Birch shall act. He appoints as his executors his wife Jane, his mother Alice, and his brother-in-law John Birch; and

he desires his loving uncle Robert Brooke and his brother Robert Jepson to be overseers. Witnesses: Robert Walworth and James Worthington. Proved at Chester April 6th, 1633.

The inventory of his goods and chattels, taken at his decease, returns their value at £610.12.7, and mentions The Shop at Manchester and The Yarn Chamber. The following are some of the items: Imp. In linen yarn, £144.4.6; It. In ten kyne, £33.6.8; It. In nine acres three roods of oats, £31.0.0; It. In apparel, £13.6.8; It. In plate, £3.15.0.

CRUMPSALL.

The township of Crumpsall is situated about three miles north-north-east of Manchester, and is in superficial extent, according to the late Ordnance survey, 733a. Or. 8p. Rickman's computation (incorporated in the Population returns of 1831) gives it but an area of 660 acres. It is divided into Higher Crumpsall, commonly known as part of Cheetham Hill, and Lower Crumpsall, known by the name of Hazlebottoms. Its more ancient orthography was Curmeshall or Curmesall, and in later times Cromptshall or Cromsall; but as formerly the ear rather than the eye directed the spelling of words, the name of this township has many other modifications, and its orthography was more than ordinarily unsettled.⁽¹⁾ For its derivation we are referred to the Anglo-Saxon, the final syllable "sal" signifying in that language a hall or place of entertainment, of which hospitable abode the Saxon chief, whose name the first syllable of the word indicates, was the early proprietor. Thus too Ordsall in the same parish. The first⁺ specific mention we have of the township is from a return to a writ of Inquisition on the death of Robert Grelle, bearing date 20 Edward I. (1291-2), wherein it appears that the bondage land in Crumpsall paid forty shillings, and the assarted or cleared lands ten shillings and two pence. It is probable that at this early period a part of Crumpsall was included in Blackley park or forest.

In the survey of the manor of Manchester, taken in the year 1322, it is stated that in Curmshal there are 108a. 1r., and seven bovates of heath land worth 56s. 6d., viz.: five and a half bovates worth 16s. 1d., of which two bovates are 8s., and there remain some

(1) The name of the township is thus variously written in ancient documents, nor, it is believed, does this list include every modification of the word: Carmeshall, Curmeshall, Curmeshale, Curmesale, Crummeshall, Crumshall, Crumsall, Crumsell, Cromeshall, Croneshall, Cromptshall, Croomsalle, Croomsall, Crimpsall, Crimsall, Curmysall, Curnishall, Curmshal.

+ In 1282 the Lord of Macclesfield had ten oxgangs of land in Crumpsall in bondage, the farm of which was 40s.; the rent of certain assarts there amounted to 10s. 2d. (Inquests & Extents (Rec. Soc.) p. 245). In the Survey 1322-2 three oxgangs were held separately by villanous tenants at a rent of 5s. 2d. (Inquestes Chet Soc. v. 4. p. 81); the names of the tenants were Richd & William son of Maist and Richd son of Roger. The same services were rendered as at Ardwick. The value of the tithes work was 5s. & their rents amounted to 6s. 8d. The other 7 oxgangs with 108 acres of land appear to have been in the Lord's hand (ibid. ii. 367); 3 1/2 oxgangs worth 16s. 12d. each 2 oxgangs worth 10s. 2d. each 1 1/2 oxgangs worth 5s. 2d. each.

In 1444 Ralph Prestwich had three messuages, 90 a. of land, 12 a. of meadow & 6 a. of wood in
 Chial Concord 118, 119 about 1504 another Ralph Prestwich complained that certain persons had
 broken into his close at C. and stolen three pieces of linincloth (Duchy Pleads 90 (Rec. Soc) 1, 41)

CHAPEL OF BLACKLEY, ETC.

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bovates worth 10s. 2d.; also one and a half bovat value 8s. 1d.; also one cottage and one rood of land worth 6d; also three plots at Curmeshal, 46 acres of land, value 11s. 6d., at 3d. per acre; also one plot there, 80 acres of land, value 10s.; under the pales of Blackley [park] 1 acre of land value 2d.; also in Ashtonhurst 9 acres of land value 3s. There are 80 acres of land value 20s., at 3d. per acre, which are leased to William Harpour for the term of his life, in place of a benefice — of the gift of the lord John de la Warr. The waste of Curmeshal, containing 40 acres of pasture land, is not computed at its value by itself, because all the tenants of Curmeshale have common of pasture there, for which the tenants are rented so much higher, and yet it is not worth more than a common.

In a sort of appendix to this survey we find the lord of Manchester holding arable land in Curmeshal, in three several allotments, 18a. 1r., and one bovat respectively, and also wood land (boscus), but the quantity is not specified. The bounds of Manchester manor at this point are stated to be "up to Redbroke and following that unto the ditch or pit at Curmeshale, called le Moss ditch," &c.

In 1405 the rector of lord de la Warre released to him three messuages & 800 a of land in the parish of the Man. of Manchester. Chanc. Reg. 5 Hen VI, 100 54, 11

In the 5th Henry VI. (1426-7), a survey of the manor of Manchester being again taken, reference is made to Crumpsall in the following terms, "Mancestre 800 acr. terr in ham. de Curmesale per metas."

From the rental of Thomas West, Lord de la Warre, lord of Manchester, of the date May 1st, 1472, it appears that Crumpsall was held in soccage by James Radcliffe, esquire, subject to an annual payment of ten shillings; and a few years later (1517) John Radcliffe, esquire, holds the several manors of Radcliffe, Moston, and Crumpsall from lord de la Warr in soccage, paying annually the sum of twenty shillings.

the Radcl. of Radcl. held till 1517 when the Earl of Sussex sold it to John Radcl. (ed. of Lane. Press build 13 mens 194). It was not a manor.

In the reign of Elizabeth the family of Prestwich of Hulme held lands in the township. From the Inquisition post mortem of Edmund Prestwich in the 20th Elizabeth (1578), he died seized of the manor of Hulme, and also of estates in Crowsall; and from a later

the bounds began at the boundary between the town of Chorlton & Holland's Lanchment in the town under Blackley, followed the line on the side of Crumpsall as far as the boundary of Chesham & thence along the boundaries of Chesham, Broughton & Prestwich to the sleeping point. The lands were held of the King as of his Duchy of Lanc. were worth 663.8d. a year. After the death of lord de la Warre, C. was to remain to Thomas de Langley clerk & Henry de Langley his brother (Manch. Corp. Decis.).

Inquisition of another member of the same family and name, the mention of Croomsall again occurs.

Another landed proprietor at this period possessing considerable influence in the township was John Reddish of Reddish, esquire. He died 11th Elizabeth (1569), seized of the manor of Reddish and also of lands in Crumpsall. From this family their Crumpsall estate passed shortly after in marriage with Sarah, daughter and coheirress of John Reddish, esquire, to Clement, fifth son of Sir Edward Coke the celebrated lawyer; she died 6th Charles I. (1631), seized of the manors of Reddish, Prestwich, Pendlebury, and Crumpsall. During their joint occupation of the township disputes appear to have arisen between the two families. The Calendar of pleadings in the Duchy court at Lancaster intimates that in the 42nd Elizabeth (1600), "the common of pasture on the Croomsalle moor and the improvement of the wastes" formed a subject of litigation between Edmund Prestwich and Alexander Reddish*. The estate thus conveyed in marriage to the Cokes continued in their possession until the year 1789, when the representative of the family, Thomas William Coke, esquire, afterwards Earl of Leicester, disposed of it in part to the Right Hon. Lord Grey de Wilton, who thus added to his Heaton estate. His grandson, Thomas Egerton, second Earl of Wilton, is the present possessor. The amount of purchase money paid was £17000, being thirty years purchase on the rental. His lordship owns about two thirds of the entire township.

The remaining portion of the Reddish property in Crumpsall was conveyed (by purchase) June 24th, 1794, to Mr. William Marsden of Liverpool, merchant, by Mr. Coke, and was in extent 188 acres, statute measure. It was divided into three farms, Boardman's tenement, Pendleton's tenement, and Oldham's tenement, the conveyance including also certain premises occupied as Dye-works, situated on the river Irk, and known as Holland's tenement. Mr. Marsden continued in possession of the estate until his death, in or about the year 1816, when, according to the terms of his will, it was offered for sale at the Bridgewater Arms Hotel, in Manchester, May 26th, 1819. The property known by

*after the death of Alex. R. it was stated that the lands in C. Crumpsall were held of the King in the 20th part of a knight's fee (Lane. Inq. p. in Rec. Soc. p. 253).

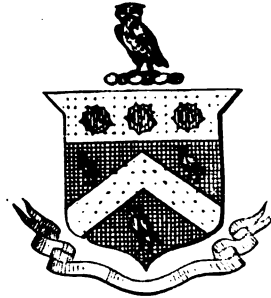
In 1606 C was sold or mortgaged to Anthony Morley (Pal. of Lane. Inq. vol. 70, m. 82).

Sarah, widow of Clement Coke, was one of the heirs of Alex. Reddish her father in law Sir Edward Coke was seized of property in C. (at least acquired of Sir William Seely decd) (D of L. Inq. p. in XXVI no 53)

the name of Boardman's tenement was purchased by Thomas Blackwall of Manchester, esquire; Pendleton's tenement, as also the dye-works, became the property of Messrs. G. W. and M. L. Delaunay, dyers, who at this time held the latter estate on lease; the remaining farm, Oldham's tenement,[†] found no purchaser, and is to the present day in the hands of Mr. Marsden's executors. It is known also as the Bongs (Banks) farm, and comprises about 45 statute acres. It is celebrated as the reputed birth-place of Hugh Oldham, bishop of Exeter, who, according to tradition current in the neighbourhood, was born there about the middle of the fifteenth century, and it is stated to have been the residence of the Oldhams for the last four hundred years. The house itself, a long narrow thatched building, bears evidence of considerable antiquity; the walls appear to have been originally of lath and plaster, which material has gradually in many parts given place to brick-work; and the whole of the exterior is now covered with white-wash. A room on the ground-floor is still pointed out as the domestic chapel, but there are no traces of its ever having been devoted to such use. One of the walls of this apartment bears a curious painting, discovered within the last thirty years by the accidental removal of the whitewash with which it had been concealed. It is in tempera and of very fair execution; in which three colours, red, black, and yellow, have been employed. In the centre of this incongruous picture-group is a nest, wherein a pelican with wings endorserd is feeding its three young ones with blood which issues from its breast, the whole within a circle; on either side of the nest is a palm-tree of luxuriant growth; and next to the palm-trees, on either side one, a lady and gentleman habited in the costume of the reign of Elizabeth, which may serve to fix the date of the painting; underneath, and apparently with little relation to each other, are grouped various animals—amongst the most prominent of these is an elephant, bearing on its back a castle, in deadly combat with an unicorn, the horn of the latter apparently about to pierce the skull of its gigantic foe. In the same cottage are shown two coats of arms, on pasteboard or panel

[†] Oldham's tenement, otherwise Bongs is the site of the Manchester Workhouse. In 1816 it was occupied by Adam Oldham. In 1816 Thomas Blackwall owned Crumpled Hall. Bagley Fold was then occupied by James Harrison, and the farm NW of it was occupied by Robert Parker. Moss Fold to the east of the 1st. south of Hollow Brook was occupied by William Hutton.

framed : The first, Oldham — sable a chevron or, between three owls argent, on a chief of the second as many roses gules : crest, an owl proper.



The name Oldham was anciently written Ouldam ; and the arms are known to heralds as *canting* arms, from the allusion they contain (the Owl) to the name of the family bearing them. These arms are identical with the coat borne by Bishop Oldham, and are inscribed with the initials R. O., and the date 1662. The second shield is divided into eight quarterings, the first only of which can be deciphered, and in this the bearings are similar to those just described. The family entered a pedigree at the Lancashire visitation of Sir William Dugdale in 1664.

The house has for some time been divided into two dwellings, both of which are at present untenanted, and are so much out of repair as to render their future occupation very doubtful.

Amongst the rate-payers of Crumpsall township in the year 1655 occur the names of Thomas Ouldam and the wife of old Ouldam.

From the burial registers of the Collegiate church, Manchester, we learn that, "October 26th, 1668, Robert Oldham of Crumpsall, gentleman," (the individual whose initials are inscribed on the armorial bearings just alluded to,) was interred there.

September 10th, 1672, buried at the Collegiate church, Thomas, son of Robert Oldham of Crumpsall. June 24th, 1690, Adam, son of Adam Oldham, was baptized at Blackley chapel. Married

at the Collegiate church, Manchester, September 1st, 1720, Robert Oldham of Crumpsall and Sarah Pendleton.

Hugh Oldham, LL.B., bishop of Exeter, was descended from an ancient family of that name. According to Dodsworth (MSS. fol. 152) he was born at Oldham in a house in Goulbourne Street, but this assertion is contradicted by the testimony of his other biographers: Wood and Godwin state that he was born in Manchester, by which they mean not so much Manchester *town* as Manchester *parish*; and Dugdale in his Lancashire visitation states more definitely in what part of the parish, correcting at the same time the misstatement of others, "not at Oldham, but at Crumpsall near Manchester." His early years were passed in the household of Thomas, first Earl of Derby, where he was educated together with James Stanley, afterwards bishop of Ely, and William Smyth, afterwards bishop of Lincoln and founder of Brazenose college. He commenced his academical career at Exeter college, Oxford, at which university he remained but for a short time, betaking himself to Cambridge, where he graduated as a member of Queen's college. In 1485 he was appointed rector of St. Mildred's, Bread Street, London. In 1493 he became rector of Swineshead in the county of Lincoln, and canon of St. Stephen's, Westminster, and the following year vicar of Cheshunt in Hertfordshire. In 1495 he was elected to the mastership of St. John's hospital in Lichfield, and was collated in the same year to a prebendal stall in the Cathedral church of Salisbury, receiving also within a few months the appointment of chaplain to Margaret, Countess of Richmond (the mother of Henry VII). In 1496 he was appointed prebendary of St. Paul's, and the following year obtained a stall in Lincoln Cathedral. In 1499 he was elected master of St. Leonard's hospital in Bedford, and three months afterwards was preferred to the living of Wareboys in the diocese of Lincoln, and the same year was advanced to a stall in the Cathedral church of York. In 1500 he became rector of Shitlington in Lincoln diocese. In 1501 he was presented to the rectory of Overton in the diocese of Worcester. In 1503 he was created

archdeacon of Exeter, and in the following year was raised through the influence of the Countess of Richmond to the see of Exeter. In 1515 having founded the Grammar school of Manchester, he endowed it with the corn-mills situate on the river Irk, which he purchased from Lord de la Warr, as well as with other messuages and lands in Manchester. He was a benefactor to Brazenose college, Oxford, and assisted Richard (Fox) bishop of Winchester to found Corpus Christi college in the same university.

He died June 25th, 1519, under sentence of excommunication in consequence of an action at law then pending between himself and the abbot of Tavistock; but the pope's sanction being obtained, he was buried in a chapel built by himself expressly for the purpose at the upper end of the south aisle of his own cathedral, where a handsome monument has been erected to his memory. The bishop had a sister named Joan, married to Robert Bexwyke or Beswick of an old Blackley family; and it is conjectured that Richard Oldham, bishop of Sodor and abbot of Chester in 1452, and Bernard Oldham, archdeacon of Cornwall, were of the same family with the bishop.



Cottage in Crumpeall, the reputed birth place of Hugh Oldham, bishop of Exeter.

Crumpsall hall was the residence of a branch of the Chethams,[†] and is specially noted as being the birth-place of one of Manchester's worthiest sons, Humphrey Chetham, the founder of the hospital which bears his name. He was born there in the year 1580. This branch, writes Fuller, "is thought, on just grounds, to descend from Sir Geoffrey Chetham of Chetham (a man of much remark in former days), and some old writings, in the hands of worshipful persons not far remote from this place, do evidence as much; but the said Sir Geoffrey falling in troublesome times into the king's displeasure, his family (in effect) was long since ruined. But it seems his posterity was unwilling to fly from their old (though destroyed) nest, and got themselves a handsome habitation at Crumpsall hard by."⁽¹⁾

At what period this branch settled at Crumpsall is not with any degree of certainty known; but the elder line, located at Nuthurst in the adjacent township of Moston, recognized its claim to "the bloud and linage" of the family in a certificate granted in 1635 by Thomas Chetham of Nuthurst, esquire, wherein he gives permission to Humphrey Chetham of Crumpsall (who was in that year high sheriff) to bear the same arms which he himself bore, only "with the difference of a second brother."

It is conjectured that the Crumpsall branch commenced with Edward Chetham, the great-grandfather of James, who must have lived, if we form our judgment from the period of a correspondent generation in the Nuthurst line, about the end of the reign of Henry VIII.⁽²⁾ This Edward Chetham of Crumpsall is represented as having had two sons, James, and a second whose name is not remembered.

James, the eldest, is stated also to have had two sons and several daughters: Edward, who died young, and Henry, who was twice married, his first wife being Ellen, daughter of Roger Wroe of Heaton-gate, Prestwich, and was the father of nine children. Of these three died without issue, viz., Edward, Simon, and another

(1) Fuller's *Worthies*, p. 121; edit. 1662.

(2) Ware's *Foundations in Manchester*, vol. iii. pp. 129-131.

D D

* Thomas son of Hugh de Chetham of Crumpsall occurs in 1417 (*Final Concord. Rec. Soc.* iii, 85)

not named. Of his surviving sons, James was the eldest; George, the third son, resided at Clayton hall; Humphrey, the fifth, was the founder of the Chetham charities; and Ralph, the sixth, married and left a numerous family. Ann, the eldest daughter, was the wife of Mr. Daniel Travis of Blackley, and Alice, the younger, died unmarried.

James Chetham of Crumpsall, gentleman, the eldest son of Henry Chetham, was born April 7th, 1565. He was twice married. His first wife was Elizabeth Holland of Crumpsall, who died in 1605 - 6, having had issue three sons, George, James, and Henry, and one daughter Jane. By his second marriage with Isabel Goldsmith of Manchester, solemnized at the Collegiate church September 22nd, 1606, he had two sons, Humphrey, died in his infancy, and Edward, and four daughters, Isabel wife of Richard Lomax of Redivales in the parish of Bury, Jane the wife of John Kay of Thornham in the parish of Middleton, Elizabeth, and Alice.

George Chetham, eldest surviving son of James Chetham, was born July 1st, 1594. He was twice married. His first wife was Elizabeth, daughter of Henry Johnson of Manchester, mercer, by whom he had a son Humphrey, who died unmarried about the year 1658. He married secondly Abigail, daughter of Edward Gellthorpe, and had issue James his successor, George of Smedley, (married Elizabeth Gaythorne, and had issue,) Abigail, Elizabeth, and Ann.

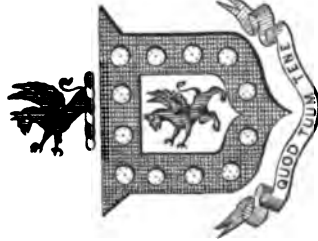
James Chetham, eldest son of James, was born August 24th, 1641, married Margaret, daughter and coheirress of Sir Samuel Sleigh of Etwall in the county of Derby, knight, by whom he had five sons, Samuel born in 1675, who married Mary, sixth and youngest daughter and coheirress of James Holt of Castleton in the county of Lancaster, esquire, but died in 1744 s.p., Humphrey, who died unmarried in 1749, James Chetham D.D., Gervas, and Henry, a sergeant-at-law, who all died without issue, and two daughters, Abigail and Judith.

At the death of the children of James Chetham of Crumpsall,

esquire, and Margaret his wife, without issue, the whole of the elder line of Chetham of Crumpsall became extinct; and the entailed estates passed to Edward Chetham, son of James Chetham and Isabel Goldsmith, who was born in 1612-13. He married Alice Wilson of Smedley. Of their three sons, James and Humphrey died without issue, leaving their younger brother Edward, born in 1647, heir to his father. Edward married Mary Abraham, and dying in 1714 left a son Edward, the last male heir of the family, a barrister-at-law, who died unmarried and intestate in 1769. At his death the extensive estates of the family were divided between his two sisters, Alice, wife of Adam Bland, and Mary, wife of Samuel Clowes.

The Deed of partition bears date October 31st, 1770, wherein it is arranged between the two sisters that the estates of their deceased brother should be surveyed, valued, and divided. The first lot comprised the manor of Turton, the several messuages, lands, tenements, &c., in Turton, Droylesden, Failsworth, Manchester, Newton, and Spotland, together with part of the messuages, lands, tenements, &c., in Salford. The second lot consisted of the manor of Broughton, the several messuages, lands, tenements, &c., in Broughton, Pendlebury, Kersall, Crumpsall, Moston, and Cheetham, together with the remaining part of the messuages, lands, tenements, &c., in Salford. It was also further agreed that for and in consideration of the payment of the sum of £500 to her sister Mary Clowes, Alice Bland should have her option and choice of the two lots; whereupon she selected the estates first enumerated, the second lot, including the Crumpsall property, falling to her sister.

By her Will, dated December 30th, 1773 (proved at Chester Feb. 5th, 1775), Mary Clowes, widow and relict of Samuel Clowes, late of Smedley, esquire, deceased, gives, devises, limits, and appoints all her messuages and tenements, with the lands, &c., thereunto belonging, situate, lying and being in Crumpsall, then in the occupation of Thomas Tipping, his assigns or under tenants, unto John Hilton her grandson, son of Samuel Hilton of Pennington, esquire, and Mary his wife, daughter of the testatrix.



Elizabeth of Crumpsall.

James Chetham of Crumpsall and Manchester, — Katharine, dau. of
living in 1665.

Ellen, dau. of Roger Wroe — Henry Chetham — Jane, dau. of
of Hooton Gate in the bur. at Coll. Ch. Oct.
Parish of Pritchard, bur.
at Coll. Ch. Manchester
— 13, 1591-2.

Elizabeth — James Chetham —
Holland of Crumpsall, born April 7,
1665.
Ch. Oct. 29,
1688; bur.
there Jan.
12, 1695-6.

Elizabeth — George — Abigail,
dau. of
Chetham
of Clay-
ton, born
July 1,
1664; died
Nov. 17,
1696.
Humphrey, son
and heir, living
in 1649; died un-
mar. about 1688.

James Chetham — Margaret,
dau. of Sir
of Turton, born
Aug. 24, and bap-
tized at Coll. Ch. Aug.
31, 1641; died 30
May, 1697.
George Chetham — Elizabeth,
widow of ...
Gayborne, Dec.
married at
Churchtown
Apr. 21, 1679;
bur. at Coll.
Ch. Oct. 27,
1710.

Isabel
Goldsmith,
marr. at Coll.
Ch. Sept. 21,
1606; bur.
there Nov.
22, 1635.
Mary,
bapt. at Coll.
Ch. May 1,
1635; mar.
Apr. 16, 1639.
Margaret,
bapt. at Coll.
Ch. May 1,
1635; mar.
Jan. 4, 1643-3, the
Rev. John
Tildesley.

James, Henry, Jane,
bapt. at
Jan. 23, May 25,
1601-3; 1606;
died an in-
fant.
James,
bapt. at
Jan. 23, May 25,
1601-3; 1606;
died an in-
fant.

George Chetham — Elizabeth,
widow of ...
Gayborne, Dec.
married at
Churchtown
Apr. 21, 1679;
bur. at Coll.
Ch. Oct. 27,
1710.

George, Synon, —
bapt. at Coll.
Ch. April 1,
1679; died
buried a.p.
Synon
Clayton
Jan. 8,
1687-7.

Mary,
bapt. at Coll.
Ch. May 1,
1635; mar.
Apr. 16, 1639.
Margaret,
bapt. at Coll.
Ch. May 1,
1635; mar.
Jan. 4, 1643-3, the
Rev. John
Tildesley.

Isabel,
wife of
Richd. John
Lomax
of Re-
divales, par.
of Middle-
ton; a
widow
in 1651.

Humphrey,
bapt. at Coll.
Ch. July 15,
1639; died
bur. at Coll.
Ch. Oct. 12, 1639;
was high sheriff
for Lancashire in
1635, and again in
1643.

Martha & Ellen,
bapt. at Clayton,
Ch. May 1,
1635; mar.
Apr. 4, 1639.
Margaret,
bapt. at Coll.
Ch. May 1,
1635; mar.
Jan. 4, 1643-3, the
Rev. John
Tildesley.

Isabel,
wife of
Richd. John
Lomax
of Re-
divales, par.
of Middle-
ton; a
widow
in 1651.

Isabel,
bapt. at Coll.
Ch. July 15,
1639; died
bur. at Coll.
Ch. Oct. 12, 1639;
was high sheriff
for Lancashire in
1635, and again in
1643.

George, Synon, —
bapt. at Coll.
Ch. April 1,
1679; died
buried a.p.
Synon
Clayton
Jan. 8,
1687-7.

Isabel,
wife of
Richd. John
Lomax
of Re-
divales, par.
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1679; died
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Synon
Clayton
Jan. 8,
1687-7.

Isabel,
wife of
Richd. John
Lomax
of Re-
divales, par.
of Middle-
ton; a
widow
in 1651.

James Chetham, of Smedley, bap. at Coll. Ch. Dec. 28, 1688-9; Mary Whitworth; died s.p. before 1681.

Humphrey Chetham, mar. at Eccles, Jan. 28, 1688-9; Mary Whitworth; died s.p. before 1681.

Edward Chetham, bap. at Coll. Ch. Sept. 29, 1647; bur. at Coll. Ch. in May 1714.

Mary Abraham, mar. at Coll. Ch. May 12, 1688; bur. at Coll. Ch. July 27, 1701-2.

James Chetham of Smedley, high sheriff for the county of Lancaster 1730.

George Chetham, born 1701.

Mary Chetham, bap. at Coll. Ch. May 6, 1681.

Ann Chetham, bap. at Coll. Ch. Dec. 9, 1683; died at Smedley Feb. 17, 1763, bur. at Coll. Ch. Feb. 24, 1763, et. 79.

Martha Chetham, bap. at Coll. Ch. Jan. 30, 1688-9.

Elizabeth Chetham, bap. at Coll. Ch. Aug. 28, 1690; there Mar. 23, 1694, 20, 17—.

Samuel Chetham, — Mary, d. & h. of James Holt of Castleton; bap. at Coll. Ch. May 26, 1740. The estates descending to Edwd. Chetham, his second cousin, Lancaster 1735.

Humphrey became heir to his brother Samuel; died s.p. buried at Coll. Ch. July 17, 1740. The estates descending to Edwd. Chetham, his second cousin, Lancaster 1735.

Gertrude of Turton, born 1684; died May 18, and bur. at Coll. Ch. May 23, 1718, et. 34.

Abigail, born Judith, born Henry, died s.p.; 1672; died at in 1686; died a sergeant-at-law; Turton, unmarried; Jan. 2, and bur. at Jan. 2, 1711-12.

Edward Chetham, bap. at Coll. Ch. Dec. 27, 1689; died unmarried, Feb. 19, and bur. at Coll. Ch. Mar. 6, 1789. Was a barrister-at-law, and succeeded to the estates of Castleton, Turton, and Smedley, on the death of his kinsman, Humphrey Chetham, in 1749. At his death his estates were divided between his sisters, Alice and Mary, by partition-deed dated Oct. 8, 1770.

Edward Chetham, bap. at Coll. Ch. Dec. 27, 1689; died unmarried, Feb. 19, and bur. at Coll. Ch. Mar. 6, 1789. Was a barrister-at-law, and succeeded to the estates of Castleton, Turton, and Smedley, on the death of his kinsman, Humphrey Chetham, in 1749. At his death his estates were divided between his sisters, Alice and Mary, by partition-deed dated Oct. 8, 1770.

Alice Chetham, bap. at Coll. Ch. July 1685; died 1744; married Adam Bland.

Mary Chetham, born 1684; mar. at Coll. Ch. Nov. 23, 1716, to Saml. Cloves of Chad-dock, esq.

Mary, bap. at Coll. Ch. Dec. 19, 1717; mar. at Coll. Ch. Mor-decal Green, a Spanish mer-chant.

James Green.

About this time the hall and its adjacent lands had become the property of John Gartside, esquire, who some years later (in 1806) disposed of it by sale to Thomas Blackwall, esquire, of Manchester; the estate thus transferred being in extent about sixty statute acres. Mr. Gartside had married Katharine, daughter of Philip Howard of Corby Castle in the county of Cumberland, esquire; and the hall, during the period of Mr. Gartside's ownership, was constituted the residence of one of the Howard family (as it is said, a near relative of the Duke of Norfolk).

Mr. Hilton still continued to retain the residue of the Crumpsall property devised to him under the will of his grandmother, and died seized thereof in the year 1814. By his will, dated May 31st, 1814, (proved in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury April 19th, 1815,) he gives and devises to his nephew Sir John Richard Hilton, knight, a lieutenant in the royal navy, the third son of his brother James, all his estate called Crumpsall. Sir John Richard Hilton was born December 27th, 1785, and is described as of the city of Chester. He appears to have completed the alienation of this portion of his family inheritance, by disposing of the remainder of his estate in Crumpsall to Edward Loyd, esquire, and George Faulkner, esquire.

Abstract of the Will of Henry Chetham of Crumpsall, proved at Chester May 4th, 1603:

"In the name of God, Amen — the eighth daye of March one thousande sixe hundreth and two — I, Henry Chetham of Crumpsalle, p'ishe of Manchester, in the countie of Lancaster, gent., being (amongst manie other causes) moved by the consideracion of th' incertentie of the lief of all men, but especiallie of myne owne lief, the rather by reason of myne olde age and the manyfolde infirmities of my bodye, doe in my p'sent sounde memorie and understandinge make, ordeyne, and declare this my last will and testament in maner and forme followinge: That ys to saye, ffirst, I comēd my soule into the hands of Almightye God, surelie trustinge throughe the merits of His Sonne, my Savio^r, Jesus

Christ, that He will receyve the same into His kingdome when yt shall please Him to calle me from this mortall lief."

He wills that his body shall be buried in the Parish church of Manchester in such comely sort as to his executor hereafter named shall be thought convenient.

All his goods and chattels, which God of His bounteous liberality hath here bestowed upon him, he gives and disposes of them as follows: That is to say, as of right belonging, one full third part thereof he reserves to himself; one other third part he gives unto Jane, his loving wife; and the other and last third part he gives unto his children, George, Humphrey, Ralph, and Alice only (the rest of his children, viz., Simon and Ann, being thereof already satisfied and paid). Also, he gives and disposes of his own third part as follows: That is, ffirst, he gives to his daughter Ann, the wife of Daniel Travis, £4; also he gives to all the children of his (testator's) son James, which shall be born and living at the time of his (testator's) death, six shillings and eightpence a piece; also to his servant, Ralph Chetham, six shillings and eightpence. "And whereas Mr. John Dee, warden of the college of Christ in Manchester, heretofore borrowed of my sonne, Edmonde Cheetam, deceased (whose executor I ame), the some of tenn pounds, and for securitie of repayment thereof, and of lawful consideracone for the forbearance of the same, the saide Mr. Dee delyvered to my said sonne sixe severall parcells of plate to be kept as a pawne or pleadge for the same, which by reason of my saide executorshippe, are nowe come to my possessione—now towching this, my will ys, and I gyve to my saide sonnes, Humfrey and Raphe, the said some of tenne pounds, with all the saide consideracon due and to be due for the forbearance thereof, and with all advantages and profitts thereuppon growinge or arisinge, when and as the same shall or may be lawfullie gotten or obteyned." And as to the rest and residue of his said third part (his funeral expenses first paid), he gives the one-half part thereof to his said wife, and the other half part thereof to his said children, Alice and Ralph, equally to be divided

betwixt them. "Nevertheless, this my gift and bequest unto my said wife of the said half part of the said rest and residue of my said third part of my goods and chattels, is upon this trust and confidence in her reposed, That shee, my said wief, by her act executed in her lief tyme, or by her last Will and Testament, shall gyve and bestowe the same halffe parte uppon the children btewixt us of our bodyes begotten, or uppon some one or more of theme as shee in her lykinge and discercon shall thinke goode. And for asmuche as if yt please God that my wief shall after my deathe be maried, that then her power maie be taken a waie to p'forme the same trust;—therefore I desire her as my trust is in her to provide for and make such meanes as securitie, before she shall so marie, that the saide trust may be p'formed accordinge to the trewe intent and meaninge of this my last Will and Testament, so as by the lawes of this realme shalbe sufficiente."

He appoints the tuition of his said children, Ralph and Alice, and of all their goods, unto his said wife, until they shall come to their lawful age of one and twenty years. He names as his sole executor his wife, and desires his loving friends, James Wroe and Thomas Heap of the parish of Prestwich, to be supervisors of his will.

At his decease his household goods, &c., were valued at £280.9.10. Money, £18.13.0. Plate, £17.13.0. Sackcloth, £21.0.0. In geldings and mares, £25.0.0. In cattle (ten kyne, two heffers, five sterks, one yonge bull, five sucking calves), £36.0.0. It. four bibles, £2.0.0. It. more in bookes, £0.13.0. It. in apparel for his owne bodie, £8.0.0.

Humphrey Chetham, the founder of the hospital in Manchester which bears his name, was the fourth son of the testator. He was born at his father's residence, Crumpsall hall, and was baptised at the Collegiate church, Manchester, July 15th, 1580. He probably received his education at the Grammar school of his native town. Associated with his brothers, George and Ralph, he embarked in trade as a dealer in fustians, and so prospered in his business that in 1620 he purchased Clayton hall near Manchester,

which he made his residence, and subsequently, in 1628, Turton tower. "He signally improved himself," writes Fuller, "in piety and outward prosperity, and was a diligent reader of the scriptures and of the works of sound divines, and a respecter of such ministers as he accounted truly godly, upright, sober, discreet, and sincere. He was high sheriff of the county in 1635 [and again in 1648], discharging the place with great honour, insomuch that very good gentlemen of birth and estate did wear his cloth at the assize, to testify their unfeigned affection to him; and two of them, (John Hartley and Henry Wrigley, esquires,) of the same profession with himself, have since been sheriffs of the county."⁽¹⁾

By his Will dated December 16th, 1651, he bequeathed £7,000 to buy a fee-simple estate of £420 per annum, wherewith to provide for the maintenance, education, and apprenticing of forty poor boys of Manchester between the ages of six and fourteen years — children of poor but honest parents — no bastards, nor diseased at the time wherein they are chosen, not lame, or blind; "in regard the town of Manchester hath ample means already (if so employed) for the maintenance of such impotents." The hospital thus founded was incorporated by Charles II. In 1700 the number of boys was increased to sixty, and from 1779 to 1826 eighty boys were annually maintained, clothed, and educated. In the year 1718 the income of the hospital amounted to £517.8.4, and in 1826 it had reached to £2,608.3.11.

He bequeathed, moreover, the sum of £1,000 to be expended in books, and £100 towards erecting a building for their safe deposit, intending thus to lay the foundation of a public library; and the residue of his estate (amounting to near £2,000) to be devoted to the increasing of the said library and the support of a librarian. In 1826 this fund was returned at £542 per annum. The number of volumes is now about 20,000. Mr. Chetham died unmarried September 20th, 1653, and was buried at the Collegiate church, where a monument has recently been erected to his memory at the cost of a former participator in his bounty.

(1) Fuller's *Worthies*, p. 121, edit. 1662.

“God send us more such men,” writes Fuller, “that we may dazzle the eyes of the Papists with the light of our Protestant good works!”



Crumpsall Hall, the birth place of Humphrey Chetham.

Crumpsall hall, the residence of this branch of the Chethams, was another specimen of the half-timbered mansions already described. In design the same arrangement seems to have been followed that is met with in many of the halls erected during the fourteenth and two succeeding centuries — an oblong pile forming the centre, with cross gables at each end, projecting some distance outwards. The framework consisted of a series of vertical timbers, crossed by others placed transversely, with the exception of the gables, in the upper portion of which the braces sprang diagonally from the centre or king-post. The roofs were of high pitch, and extended considerably beyond the outer surface of the walls, thus not only allowing of a more rapid drain of water, but also affording a greater protection from the weather. The hall was of two stories, and lighted chiefly by bay-windows, an occasional dormer-window in the upper story rising above the roof and adding to the

effect of the building by destroying that lineal appearance which it would otherwise have assumed. This mansion, though never possessing any great pretension to architectural excellence, was nevertheless interesting from the picturesque arrangement of its details, and may be considered a very creditable example of the middle-class houses of the period to which it is referred. It occupied a site distant nearly a quarter of a mile from that of the present hall, and was taken down about the year 1825.

Crumpsall derives additional celebrity as having formed the residence of another Manchester worthy, second only to Humphrey Chetham in the munificence of his charitable bequests, viz., George Clarke, the founder of the charity which bears his name.

He was by trade a haberdasher, and is described by Fuller ⁽¹⁾ as "a man just, temperate, and frugal; and, according to his understanding, devout; a daily frequenter of the prayers in the College church [of Manchester]; and the hearer of sermons there. Not long before the breaking forth of our civil dissensions, dying without issue, he made the poor his heirs, and did give them £100 per annum, in good lands lying in a place called Crompsall, within a mile from Manchester."

This is witnessed by an Indenture bearing date December 13th, 1636, wherein George Clarke, described as of Manchester, haberdasher, for the good will he hath and beareth for and towards the better relief and provision of the poor people which for the time being shall be inhabiting and dwelling within the town of Manchester, grants, enfeoffs, and confirms to Humphrey Chetham, Nicholas Mosley, Richard Radcliffe, Samuel Tippinge, Francis Mosley, Henry Johnson, John Hartley, John Gaskell, William Rodley, Ralph Worsley, John Marlor, Richard Lomax, John Kelsey, and John Griffin, their heirs or assigns, certain lands, &c., situate in Crumpsall and Tetlow (within Crumpsall), esteemed and conceived to be of the full yearly value or worth of £100 at the least, for the purposes already specified; subject, however, to the life-interest of his wife Alice, in a moiety or half part of the afore-

(1) *Worthies of England*, p. 121; edit. 1662.

said lands. The issues and profits of the said lands, &c., to be ever hereafter yearly, from time to time, justly, truly, carefully, faithfully, and wholly disposed of, distributed, converted, and employed towards the succour, aid, or relief of such poor, aged, needy, or impotent people, resident in Manchester, as by the judgments and good discretions of the boroughreeve and the two constables of the town of Manchester (assisted in their choice by one of the churchwardens) shall be deemed and conceived to have need or want thereof.

Under this deed the trustees were only empowered to let from year to year the lands so bequeathed, a restriction which operated greatly to the disadvantage of the estate. In 1684 they applied to the Court of Chancery for an extension of their powers, and obtained a decree in their favour, bearing date July 16th, 1684, authorising them to grant leases for the term of twenty-one years. In 1795 they obtained by act of parliament a further extension of their powers, being henceforth enabled to grant building leases and to make conveyances in fee under reserved yearly rents — which was afterwards amended by an act passed in the year 1806.

Shortly after obtaining this amended act the trustees commenced the formation of a public road through the estate; and the Crescent road, at right angles with the turnpike-road at Cheetham Hill, was completed about the year 1810. No impediment now remaining, and the estate presenting many eligible sites for building, the trustees proceeded to sell the land on chief. In the year 1826 the extent of land thus disposed of was about eighty-eight acres, producing to the charity an annual income of £1107.18.2; this of course was exclusive of such portions of the estate as then remained unsold, the rent of which as arable land would be a further augmentation of the revenues of the charity. The principal purchasers up to the year 1826 were Mr. William Tyson, 14,298 square yards, on which he paid an annual chief rent of £89; Mr. William Finney Johnson, 26,398 square yards, rent £76; the Rev. C. W. Ethelston, 17,594 square yards, £53.6.9; Mr. Edward Turner, (the Woodlands,) 157,326 square yards, £327.15.6; Mr. Edward

Loyd, 91,291 square yards, £198; Mr. John Law, 89,531 square yards, £82.10.0; and Mr. Henry Winkley, 23,248 square yards, £70.15.2.

The total income of this charity is at present upwards of £2000 per annum.

In 1655 the number of rate-payers in Crumpsall was 18, and the total amount of rate collected in the six months ending November 25th was £8.11.3. Amongst the rate-payers we find the names of George Chetham esquire, George Clark's lands for the poor, Thomas Parsivall, the wife of old Ouldham, Robert Booker, Richard Booker, James Booker, John Pendleton, William Pendleton, Samuel Pendleton, Richard Pendleton, Thomas Ouldham, and George Holland. In 1852 the number of rate-payers in the township was 678, and the amount of rate collected, £437.15.6. In 1692 the annual value of real property, as assessed to the land-tax, was £95.6.3; in 1814, as assessed to the property-tax (which was also the basis of the county-rate of 1815), £2,910; in 1829, as assessed to the same, £4,933; in 1841, to the same, £13,237; and in 1853, to the same, £13,848.

In 1774 the number of houses in Crumpsall was 57, which afforded accommodation for 63 families, consisting of three hundred and forty-one individuals. Of these one hundred and twenty-three were under the age of 15 years, fifty above 50, seven above 60, twelve above 70, and four above 80. In 1801 the population amounted to 452; in 1811, 628; in 1821, 910; in 1831, 1878; in 1841, 2745; and in 1851, 3151.

In 1852 the gross value of the township was estimated at £15,349.16.0; rateable value, £13,845.5.0. Number of county voters, 62. Public-houses, 2; beer houses, 8. There were also in the township in that year one cotton-mill (Messrs. Simpson, Thompson, and Co.), rated at £1,293.3.0 per annum; one print-works (Messrs. Whyatt and Greaves), rated at £270; one dye-works (Messrs. Delaunay), rated at £297; one bleach-works (Mr. John Pendlebury), rated at £220.10.

From time immemorial for ecclesiastical purposes Crumpsall has

been associated with Blackley. The Parliamentary commission of 1650 reports that Crumpsall having "no chapel, and the inhabitants repairing to the chapel of Blackley is fit to be united with it." By this same commission the tithes of the township payable to the Warden and Fellows of Manchester were returned at £9 per annum. In 1701 they amounted to £14.2.6, and were leased to several individuals. In 1848 the rent-charge payable to the dean and chapter of Manchester, in lieu of tithes, was £93.

The first place of worship erected in the township was occupied by the Wesleyans. It was a preaching-room situate in Fountain Street, and was opened in 1809. It is now used as a hay chamber, having given place in 1815 to a structure of greater pretensions. This latter was a chapel of brick, substantially built in the Gothic style, having a gallery at one end. It was capable of containing three hundred persons, and still stands, but used only for the reading therein of the burial service, having been in turn superseded in 1837 by a second chapel accommodating six hundred persons. The form of this chapel, as originally designed, was a square, with galleries on three sides and an orchestra behind the pulpit. It had a portico supported by stone pillars and an extensive frontage of iron palisading. In the year 1844 it was discovered that the roof of the chapel had been improperly constructed and was then in so dangerous a state as to render a new roof indispensable. The trustees therefore took the opportunity of providing for an increasing population and enlarged the structure by adding nearly twenty feet to its length and ten feet to its height, and remodelling its internal arrangement as well as improving its external appearance. This is as it now appears, and it provides accommodation for about a thousand persons.

All these chapels were built by subscription, the trustees being jointly and severally responsible for the debt remaining on the property. The trust-deeds are similar to those by which Wesleyan chapels are generally held. The site is in extent rather more than three acres, and has been purchased at three separate times — the first plot from the trustees of Clarke's charity (7666 square

yards, subject to the payment of a chief rent of £31.19.0), and the second and third plots from Mr. W. F. Johnson. The total amount expended in the purchase of land and in the erection, &c., of the several chapels is stated, on competent authority, to have fallen little short of £10,000. The chapel is surrounded by a burial-ground in which, since its first opening in 1815, from 8000 to 10,000 bodies have been interred.

Connected with the chapel is a Sunday school, first established in the room before referred to as fitted up for public worship in 1809. Soon after the chapel was erected in 1815 a school-room was built on land belonging to the trustees, and in 1842 this was superseded by another yet more commodious, capable of holding three hundred children, intended to answer the double purpose of a Sunday and Day school. In 1853 the numbers of children in attendance were — boys 112, girls 124. Here too is a library consisting of 300 volumes. The Day school is taught by a master, mistress, and pupil-teachers. The system of education pursued is partly British and partly Glasgow. It has no endowment, but derives its support from private subscription, public collections, and small weekly payments from the children. In 1853 the numbers of scholars on the books were — boys 90, girls 80; average attendance 140.

In 1838 the Wesleyans erected by subscription a chapel in Lower Crumpsall on land purchased from Mr. James Rothwell, subject to the payment of a chief-rent. The area of the chapel and yard is 404 square yards, and the chapel cost about £350. It is a neat brick building with a small gallery at the east end. It will accommodate a hundred and fifty persons. Its erection was chiefly promoted by Mr. Peter Scales and Mr. Edward Clegg, both resident in Crumpsall. Connected with the chapel is a Sunday school which numbers about 60 children, and a library of 150 volumes; there is no Day school.

In the year 1850 a school in connexion with the Established Church was erected in Lower Crumpsall on a site (4750 square yards) presented by Edward Loyd, esquire. It is of brick, elegant

in design, and of ample dimensions; attached is a residence for the teacher. The estimated cost of its erection was £1980, of which sum £1100 was raised by subscription, and £394 10s. was granted by the different societies. The religious superintendence of the school is vested in the incumbent of St. Mark's Church, Cheetham, and its management is entrusted to a committee of nine persons, of whom the minister or officiating curate is to be one, the rest to be selected from subscribers of ten shillings per annum and upwards; all differences to be determined by the bishop of the diocese. The schoolroom is licensed for the performance of divine service.

In the township of Crumpsall, situate near the White Smithy turnpike-gate, are three cottages, stated to have been built about the year 1785, at the expense of Mr. John Bowker, and Mr. John Taylor of Crumpsall, both of whom are long since dead. The land upon which these buildings were erected forms part of certain premises then held by Mr. Taylor on an under-lease for lives granted by Thomas William Coke of Holkam, esquire, and held in 1825 (when the Charity commissioners drew up their report) by John Taylor of Oldham, the grandson of John Taylor above mentioned, under the Earl of Wilton, the lease being still subsisting. It did not appear at that time that any deed had ever been executed for the purpose of carrying into effect the intentions of the persons who erected these cottages.

The buildings were erected for the purposes of a school, and until the year 1818 they were used partly as a schoolroom and partly as a residence for a schoolmaster and schoolmistress. In 1818 an agreement was made by Mr. John Bowker of Prestwich, the nephew of the above-named Mr. John Bowker, and Mr. John Taylor the grandson, who had been considered as trustees of these premises, with the managers of a school called St. Mark's, which had been erected in the adjoining township of Cheetham, by subscription, on a piece of land given and conveyed to trustees by Mr. James Scholes, that the buildings above mentioned should be converted into cottages, and that a certain number of children

from Crumpsall should be sent by the trustees to St. Mark's school, and that part of the rents of the cottages should be paid for their instruction. In 1825 the cottages were stated to be let to three yearly tenants at the rents of £9, £7, and £6 per annum respectively, making in the whole £22; out of which £13 yearly had been paid to the treasurer of St. Mark's school for teaching a certain number of children who were selected at the request of Mr. Bowker and Mr. Taylor by some gentlemen in the neighbourhood. The boys thus selected were instructed in reading, and the girls in reading and sewing. The residue of the rents had been expended by Mr. Bowker and Mr. Taylor in clothing, which had been distributed amongst the poor of Crumpsall.

The End.

About 1885 in Manchester Weekly Times Supplement, Edwin Wainwright wrote a brief history of Blackley called "an old man's memory" (Manchester City News Vol. VIII, p. 222).

From note
 No 5:52 p. 225 supra
 No 5:59, p. 225

Richard Ellor of Blackley & Helen [Ellor] Jackson married at Manchester Coll. Co.
 Richard Ellor of Drogheda latter, Dec 5, 1789?
 [Ann nee] Nancy born at [x] John Chadderton [Dyer]
 Blackley Feb 7, 1767 [x] S. Blackley Feb 26, 1770
 [married March 1 Coll. Ch. Jan 10, 1789]

Chadderton

James Chadderton
 of Great Board Offices
 Old Trafford 1890

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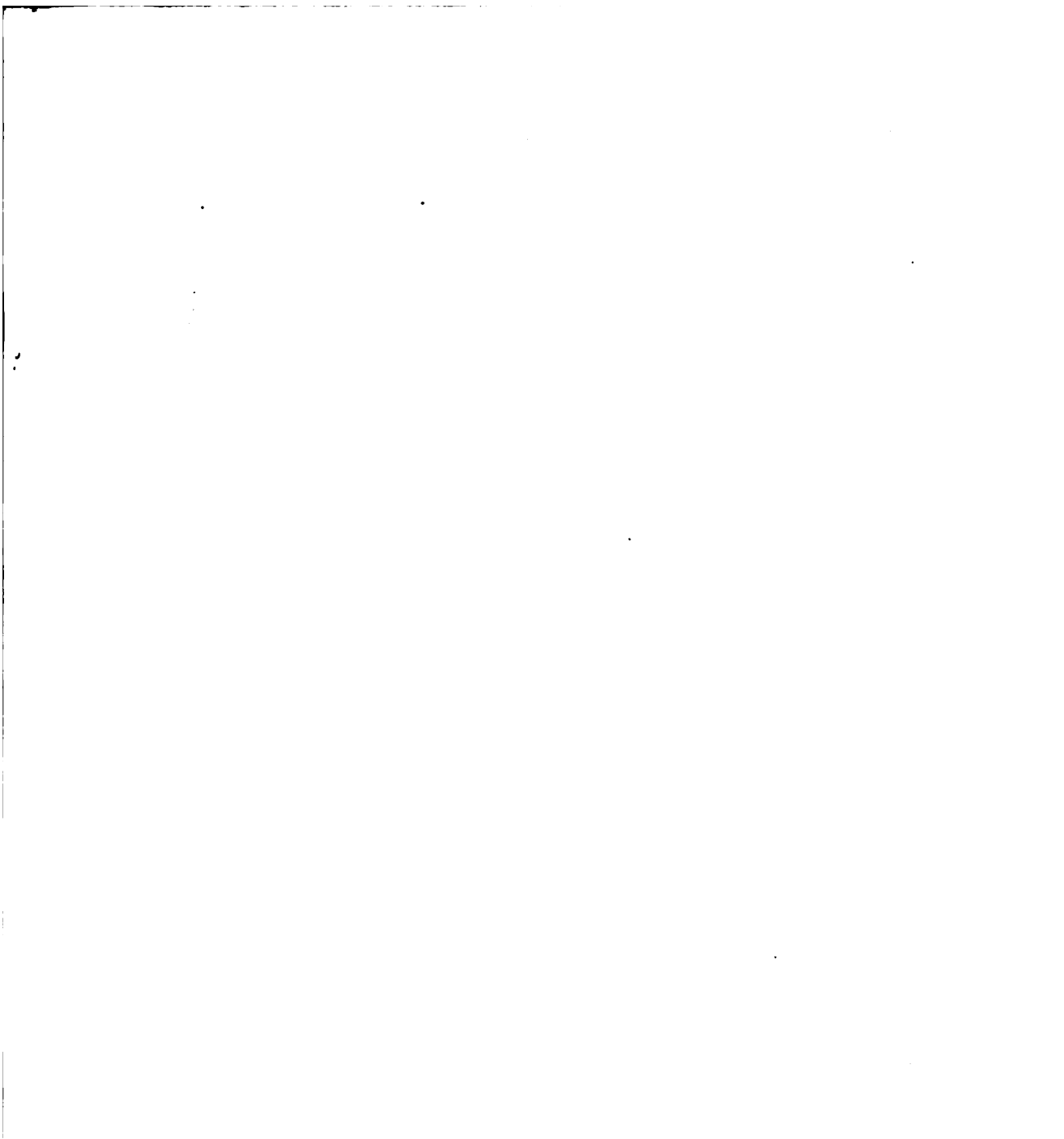
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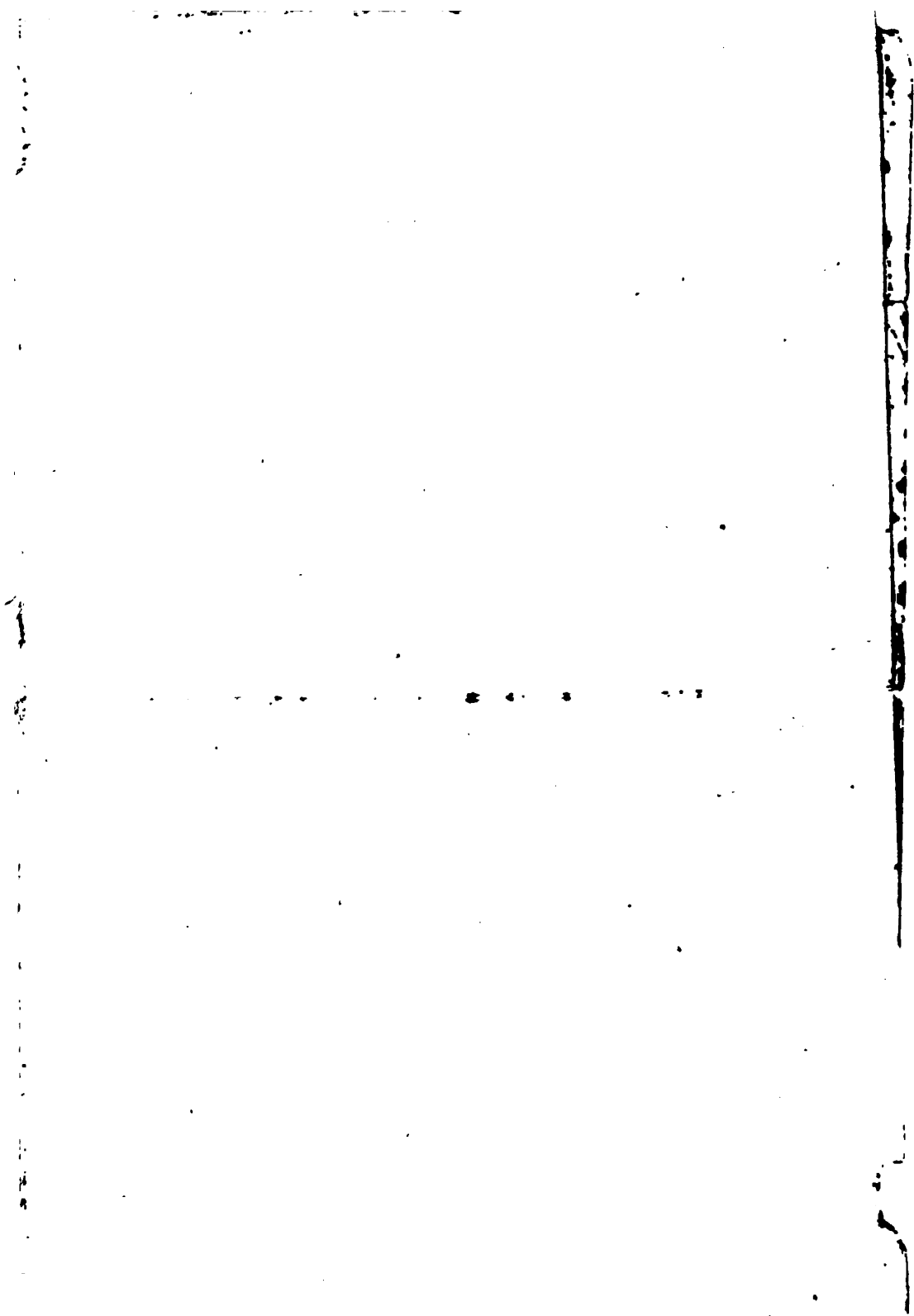
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